



BADGER STATE

SMOKE SIGNALS

For Radio Amateurs • By Radio Amateurs

Published Monthly Since 1969 • Our 29th Year
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Three Badger State hams to activate T88II on Palau

The Pacific island of Palau will be on the air 8-17 December, 1998, as T88II, operating 160-10 meters (WARC bands included) with top band emphasis by KJ9I (Oconomowoc), NF9V (Milwaukee), and NZ9Z (Kellnersville).

QSL manager is KJ9I, David Schmock, N7298, CTH F, Oconomowoc, WI 53066-9040 USA.

We wish these intrepid adventurers well, good band conditions, and hope for a story and a photo or two after the operators return and make a full recovery. □

SEDSAT-1 ready for launch

Dr. Mark Maier, KF4YGR, Associate Professor at the University of Alabama in Huntsville, tells ANS the SEDSAT-1 satellite package is complete and scheduled for launch sometime later this month.

SEDSAT-1, signifying Students for the Exploration and Development of Space Satellite number one, was developed at the University of Alabama in Huntsville.

KF4YGR says the launch could occur as early as October 22nd, although the launch range also has been reserved for October 25th and 26th, with an extension to October 27th if needed.

Originally set for a July launch, the satellite will fly as a secondary passenger along with the Jet Propulsion Laboratory's Deep Space One mission aboard a Delta II booster.

SEDSAT-1 will include Amateur Radio configurations for digital packet store-and-forward, analog parrot repeater and Mode A transponders.

The launch timeline is calling for a 0700 EDT launch, followed by second stage separation and satellite deployment some 5000 seconds later over Hawaii. SEDSAT should begin transmitting data on 432 MHz almost immediately after deployment.

"After many years of work, the whole team --present and past-- is ready to see SEDSAT fly and work," KF4YGR said. "SEDSAT will be a fascinating resource for amateur radio operations, both in communications and science collection and dissemination."

For more information on SEDSAT-1, visit the satellite web site at the following URL:

<http://146.229.5.181/>

[ANS thanks Dr. Mark Maier, KF4YGR, and the ARRL for this information]
AMSAT news service

Hams help nab police radio jammer

A Connecticut Amateur Radio tracking team called Capitol Region Malicious Interference Tracking (CRMIT -- pronounced "Kermit") helped lead authorities to a man they believe was interfering with local public safety communications. Wethersfield, Connecticut, police arrested Joel Langdo of Hartford September 29. He's been charged with criminal mischief, interfering with police and breach of peace. Langdo also could face similar charges in other communities as well as federal charges.

Langdo, a security guard who does not hold an amateur license, allegedly used a modified ham radio hand-held to transmit on police and fire frequencies used by as many as three dozen Connecticut public safety agencies. At one point, he is said to have jammed the Manchester, Connecticut, police system for 15 minutes.

Tracking down Langdo took several months of often grueling detective work and careful documentation of offending transmissions, according to CRMIT spokesman Bruce Marcus, WA1NXG, an ARRL Life Member who's in the land-mobile business. Last April, Manchester Police solicited help from CRMIT, which, in turn notified the FCC. CRMIT helped Manchester authorities solve another malicious interference case several years ago.

Marcus said the jammer used a modified Yaesu FT-50R dualband hand-held for all of his escapades, which included playing music, airing sound from TV sitcoms, making moaning sounds, and recording and playing back police transmissions.

Because the complaints were widespread, Marcus said it was not clear at first that the jamming incidents were related. "We put the puzzle together," he said. The CRMIT team used sophisticated transmitter fingerprinting equipment, and the offender helped to capture himself, Marcus said. "Its unique signature nailed it." The offender also had a habit of broadcasting Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker Suite and certain DTMF strings.

The CRMIT team eventually was able to track transmissions to the building where Langdo lived. Marcus said federal authorities are looking into how Langdo got the radio illegally modified to transmit outside the amateur bands.

Marcus had some advice for hams who want to get involved in tracking down perpetrators of malicious interference. "The object is diligence and cooperation from fellow hams to get the bearings and identification of those signals," he said. "You have to work at it. You have to work at it, and it takes the cooperation of many people."

The ARRL Letter

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Wisconsin radio amateur e-mail address list. See pages 7, 8, and 9.

Happy
Thanksgiving
from
Badger State Smoke
Signals

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WHAT'S HAPPENING

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Edited by Kenneth A. Ebnetter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901 • kebnetter@palacenet.net

Swapfests and Other Social Events

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1998. 13th annual "6.91 Friendly Fest, at the Waukesha County Expo Center Forum, N1 W24848 Northview Rd., Waukesha, WI. I-94 to County J, South to FT, West to Expo. Open 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Sellers admitted at 5:30 a.m. Tickets \$5.00. 4-foot tables \$5.00. On-site Amateur exams. Contact: KB9PHA, Mike, (414) 258-4435 or Milwaukee Repeater Club, PO Box 2123, Milwaukee, WI 53201. Web page <http://www.execps.com/~mrc/friendlyfest.htm>

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1998. Fox Cities Hamfest, Starlite Club, Hwy. 55 & County JJ North of Kaukauna, WI. VE testing (contact: Larry Siebers, KD9IA, (920) 757-1167, Food and Refreshments, Vendor setup 6:00 a.m., Doors open 8:00 a.m. Contact: Chad Pennings, N9PRC, 1912 Russett Ct., Apt. 7, Appleton, WI 54914. (920) 993-0485.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9, 1999. West Allis Radio Amateur Club, 27th annual Midwinter Swapfest, Waukesha County Expo Center Forum, Waukesha, WI. Contact: WARAC, PO Box 1072, Milwaukee, WI 53201-1072.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1999. Red Cedar Repeater Association Auction. American Legion Post 53, 634 Water Street. Eau Claire, WI. Contact: Steve Hart, KA9OMC, E616 810th Ave., Knapp, WI 54749. (715) 665-2374.

SUNDAY, APRIL 11, 1999. MARA Swapfest, Madison, WI. Middleton Conference Center. (Same place as last year, but new name.) Contact: MARA, PO Box 8890, Madison, WI 53708-8890.

SATURDAY, JULY 10, 1999. South Milwaukee

Amateur Radio Club Swapfest. American Legion Park, Shepard Avenue, South Milwaukee, WI. Contact South Milwaukee ARC, P.O. Box 102, South Milwaukee, WI 53172. (414) 762-3235.

SUNDAY, JULY 25, 1999. Racine, WI. The Racine Megacycle Club. Amateur Radio & Computer Show. Contact:

e-mail: w9udu@wi.net
voice mail: (414) 552-6RMC
web page: <http://www2.wi.net/~hamradio/>

See also the back page and flyer ads for additional information on many of these events.

Let us know of your dates as soon as you know them. We will list them and perhaps help avoid conflicts with other events.

As a service to our readers, this section of Badger State Smoke Signals is available without charge to list your upcoming Swapfest, Hamfest, dinner, picnic, party or other event of interest to Radio Amateurs in Wisconsin and nearby areas. Send information on your event to Kenneth A. Ebnetter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901. In addition, space is available at attractive rates on our advertising pages. For information on rates and requirements for our advertising pages, please contact K9ZZ or K9EN.



CLUB MEETINGS

Due to space limitations, we cannot always carry the full listing of Wisconsin and area club meetings. Please see the September 1998 meetings column for the latest complete listing. The following changes have been reported to BSSS since that listing.

EAU CLAIRE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

2nd Tuesday - 7:30 PM Eau Claire, Parks & Recreation, 1300 First Ave, Eau Claire, WI 54703. All hams and guests welcome. Wide area coverage repeater KB9RRA 146.910 Mhz. For more info: Jim Staatz KG9MV 715-838-9108 kg9mv@ecol.net

WAUPACA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

"CQ First Tue." - A social gathering and dutch treat luncheon at the King's Table in King, WI, on Highway QQ just south of highways 10 and 54 on the west side of Waupaca. Gather at 11:00 - 11:30. Order at noon. Club business transacted.

"CQ Third Fri." A social gathering and dutch treat dinner, semi-formal, "OM & XYL" at one of the better supper clubs in the area. Check Waupaca 147.390 nets at 8:00 a.m. or 8:50 p.m. for that month's meeting place.

QCWA - WISCONSIN CHAPTER #55

Contact Erwin Froelich, W9RZW, Treasurer, W3449 Badger Road, Pine River WI 54965. For information about meeting dates or joining QCWA Chapter #55. The Wisconsin Chapter holds Spring and Fall dinner meetings on the first Saturday of June and October.

RADIO AMATEURS OF WISCONSIN (RAW) OSHKOSH, WI

Meet on 3rd Saturday at various locations. Contact Mark Miller, N9WT, (920) 231-1662 or Jeff Oppermann N9OSB, (920) 235-7961

The Test Point



Amateur Radio Examination Locations
and Schedules in the Wisconsin Area

Badger State Smoke Signals

Amateur Radio
Education and Information

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EDITORIAL BOARD: Ken Ebnetter, K9EN; Dave Kaus, WABPOV; Don Evenson, K9JYX.

Subscriptions

1 year	(12 issues)	\$13.95
2 years	(24 issues - save \$1.95)	\$25.95
3 years	(36 issues - save \$3.90)	\$37.95

Subscription form is on page 5. Special club package reduced rates are available. For information, contact Ken Ebnetter, K9EN.

When to Send It

The closing date for each issue is the first of the month for the next month's issue. For example, the closing date for the June issue is May 1. The only exception is for participating clubs' minutes. Participating clubs are requested to send their material no later than FIVE DAYS after the club's meeting. For example, if a club meets on the 4th of the month, the material should be sent no later than

the 9th of that month. This material is to be sent to the Editor.

Where to Send It

Address changes and corrections, and exchange papers should be sent to Ken Ebnetter.

Editorial material, photographs, and feature articles should be sent to Jim Romelfanger.

Inquiries about advertising should be directed to Ken Ebnetter. Club, swapfest, and Test Point information should be sent to Ken Ebnetter.

Swapfest ADS should be sent to Jim Romelfanger NO LATER THAN EIGHT WEEKS BEFORE THE EVENT'S DATE.

Subscriptions should be sent, with check or money order, to Ken Ebnetter.

Conditions for Reprinting or BBS Posting Material from Badger State Smoke Signals

Permission is hereby granted to reprint articles or posting articles on radio or telephone bulletin boards from *Badger State Smoke Signals*, providing credit is given to the original author, publication in which the article first appeared, and to *Badger State Smoke Signals*. THIS CREDIT IS MANDATORY, AND NO MATERIAL MAY BE PRINTED OR POSTED UNLESS IT IS GIVEN.

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Editorial Disclaimer

The opinions expressed in editorials, guest editorials, columns, articles, and letters from readers are the opinions of the authors only, and do not, unless otherwise stated, express or imply endorsement by *Badger State Smoke Signals*, or by any other individual or organization.

November 01, 1998	Kaukauna, WI
November 07, 1998	Menomonie, WI
November 07, 1998	Onalaska, WI
November 07, 1998	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
November 07, 1998	Racine, WI
November 07, 1998	Pewaukee WI
November 07, 1998	St. Paul, MN
November 12, 1998	Apple Valley, MN
November 14, 1998	Blaine, MN
November 14, 1998	Madison, WI
November 14, 1998	Oak Creek, WI (MRAC)
November 17, 1998	Eden Prairie, MN
November 18, 1998	Sheboygan, WI
November 21, 1998	Cottage Grove, MN
November 21, 1998	Loves Park, IL
November 21, 1998	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
November 28, 1998	Bloomington, MN
November 28, 1998	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
November 28, 1998	Tomahawk, WI
December 05, 1998	Hudson, WI
December 05, 1998	Stevens Point, WI
December 05, 1998	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
December 05, 1998	Racine, WI
December 05, 1998	Pewaukee WI
December 05, 1998	St. Paul, MN
December 10, 1998	Apple Valley, MN
December 12, 1998	Blaine, MN
December 12, 1998	Madison, WI
December 12, 1998	Oak Creek, WI (MRAC)
December 15, 1998	Eden Prairie, MN
December 19, 1998	Cottage Grove, MN
December 19, 1998	Loves Park, IL
December 19, 1998	Milwaukee, WI (BE)
December 19, 1998	Oshkosh, WI
December 26, 1998	Bloomington, MN
January 02, 1999	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
January 02, 1999	St. Paul, MN
January 09, 1999	Blaine, MN
January 09, 1999	Eau Claire, WI

January 09, 1999 Madison, WI
 January 09, 1999 Oak Creek, WI (MRAC)
 January 12, 1999 Apple Valley, MN
 January 16, 1999 Cottage Grove, MN
 January 16, 1999 Loves Park, IL
 January 16, 1999 Milwaukee, WI (BE)
 January 18, 1999 Eden Prairie, MN
 January 23, 1999 Appleton, WI
 January 25, 1999 Bloomington, MN
 January 30, 1999 Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
 January 30, 1999 Tomahawk, WI
 February 02, 1999 Oshkosh, WI
 February 06, 1999 Oshkosh (Omro), WI
 February 06, 1999 Racine, WI
 February 06, 1999 St. Paul, MN
 February 11, 1999 Apple Valley, MN
 February 13, 1999 Blaine, MN
 February 13, 1999 Madison, WI
 February 13, 1999 Oak Creek, WI (MRAC)
 February 16, 1999 Eden Prairie, MN
 February 20, 1999 Cottage Grove, MN
 February 20, 1999 Loves Park, IL
 February 20, 1999 Milwaukee, WI (BE)
 February 20, 1999 Milwaukee, WI (BE)
 February 27, 1999 Bloomington, MN
 February 27, 1999 Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
 February 27, 1999 Tomahawk, WI
 March 06, 1999 Oshkosh (Omro), WI
 March 06, 1999 Racine, WI
 March 06, 1999 St. Paul, MN
 March 11, 1999 Apple Valley, MN
 March 13, 1999 Blaine, MN
 March 13, 1999 Madison, WI
 March 13, 1999 Oak Creek, WI (MRAC)
 March 16, 1999 Eden Prairie, MN
 March 20, 1999 Milwaukee, WI (BE)
 March 20, 1999 Cottage Grove, MN
 March 20, 1999 Loves Park, IL
 March 20, 1999 Milwaukee, WI (BE)
 March 27, 1999 Bloomington, MN
 March 27, 1999 Menomonie, WI
 March 27, 1999 Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
 March 27, 1999 Tomahawk, WI
 April 15, 1999 Milwaukee, WI (BE)
 May 22, 1999 Oshkosh, WI
 August 21, 1999 Oshkosh, WI
 October 16, 1999 Oshkosh, WI
 November 06, 1999 Menomonie, WI
 December 18, 1999 Oshkosh, WI
 Monthly, 1st Sat. Racine, WI
 (except January, July & August)
 Monthly, 1st Sat. Oshkosh (Omro), WI
 Monthly, 1st Sat. St. Paul, MN
 Monthly, 2nd Thu. Apple Valley, MN
 Monthly, 2nd Sat. Oak Creek, WI (MRAC)
 Monthly, 2nd Sat. Madison, WI
 Monthly, 2nd Sat. Blaine, MN
 Monthly, 3rd Tue. Eden Prairie, MN
 Monthly, 3rd Sat. Milwaukee, WI (BE)
 Monthly, 3rd Sat. Loves Park, IL
 Monthly, 3rd Sat. Cottage Grove, MN
 Monthly, 4th Sat. Bloomington, MN
 Monthly, Last Sat. Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
 (except December)
 Monthly, Last Sat. Tomahawk, WI
 (January thru October only)
 Quarterly Eau Claire, WI
 (Second Saturday Jan., Apr., & Oct.)
 plus annual summer hamfest.)

Many Swapfests/Hamfests offer exam sessions. If not shown above contact the sponsoring club in the Swapfest column on page 2.

The FCC now requires applicants to show their ORIGINAL AMATEUR LICENSE to the VEC. A copy of your license must be attached to your FCC form 610. You will also be required to have a photo ID, or other acceptable identification.

GENERAL RULES FOR MOST EXAMINATIONS

Be sure to check with sponsors in the event there are changes and/or errors in the dates or information given.

Some examinations require filing an FCC Form 610 and advance registration at least 30 days before the exam date. (Some VEC's permit walk-ins. Check with sponsor.)

To register, you must first secure a copy of the current FCC Form 610 and fill it out completely (AND CORRECTLY). Get your form from an FCC Field Office, the ARRL. Send a 32¢ SASE if you request one from the ARRL. In most cases, forms can also be obtained from the sponsoring group.

ARRL VEC examinations require a check for \$6.35 payable to "ARRL VEC".

The FCC now requires applicants to show their ORIGINAL AMATEUR LICENSE or CSCE to the VEC.

You must also have two good copies of your license or CSCE. A copy of your license or CSCE must be attached to your FCC form 610 and most VEC want a copy for their records. You will also be required to have a photo ID, or other acceptable identification.

Technician class licensees must show proof of testing before March 21, 1987, in order to upgrade to General with a code test only.

Additional information is given below.

For those with internet access, a listing of exam sessions is available from:

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/examsearch.html>

By checking this page, a person can find out registered VE sessions anywhere in US and some overseas. You can search by country, state or zip code. The listing is not specific to any particular VEC. It is a master database. (Thanks to KB9EQI for information.)

MILWAUKEE RADIO AMATEURS' CLUB (MRAC/VEC)

SECOND SATURDAY - OAK CREEK, WI
 LAST SATURDAY - MILWAUKEE, WI

SECOND SATURDAY DATE: 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Wauwatosa Savings Bank, 6560 S. 27th St., Oak Creek, WI.

LAST SATURDAY DATES: (except December): 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at Amateur Electronic Supply (AES), 5710 W. Good Hope Rd., Milwaukee, WI. Note: For Additional Information: Call (414) 466-HAMS (Answering Machine).

Bring along your ORIGINAL license, CSCE (if any) and one (1) good quality photocopy of each, plus two forms of identification, such as a driver's license, etc. Also required is \$6.35 for the exam fee. WALK-INS are welcome. To register in advance, use a post card: Print the grade of license you are applying for, your name, address, and telephone number. Send the card to MRAC/VEC, Milwaukee Radio Amateurs Club, PO Box 25707, Milwaukee, WI 53225.

BADGER EXAMINERS (BE) - MILWAUKEE

Badger Examiners group tests at AES (Amateur Electronic Supply) at 60th and Good Hope, every third Saturday MORNING. Exam times are 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon, at the old Sierman Printing shop, just 300 feet west of the AES store. Novice to Extra are offered, and all test materials are provided. Fee is \$6.35, and bring your original license, or CSCE if needed. Also available are Commercial license exams GROL (General Radiotelephone license), GMDSS, Telegraph, Etc. Fee is \$35.00. For more information call Gary Sharbuno, WI9M at (414) 355-0237.

MADISON, WI

VE exams are held in Madison every second Saturday morning of the month at 8 a.m. They are held at the operations building of the Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District at 1610 Moorland Rd. To get there take the Beltline (Hwy 12 & 18) to South Towne Drive. Go south 8/10 mile till South Towne Drive makes a bend and becomes Moorland Rd. and enter at gate.

You should bring a picture ID, your original licence and a copy of your licence. For exams beyond the novice tests, bring a check for \$6.35, made out to the ARRL/VEC. If the special 610 form with the medical exemption is required, contact me beforehand to obtain one. No appointments are necessary to take exams. For further questions, please leave a message on the mailbox or phone me at (608) 832-6631.

Mark Jenks, NZ9B

MENOMONIE, WI

VEC Exams of all levels will be held Saturday, November 7, 1998 at the UW-Stout Communications Center, 820 South Broadway, Menomonie, Wisconsin. Walk-ins only. Walk in between 9:00 and 11:00 am. For further information, contact Jim Ley, NX9F, (W) 715-232-1397 or (H) 715-235-3998.

STEVENS POINT, WI

ARRL Exams in Stevens Point, December 5, 1998. Time: 0930 Place: A107 Science Building, on campus at UWSP (corner of Fourth and Reserve streets) For more information contact Joe Larson, N9JW, at 715-344-1182 evenings or email to joel8@bigfoot.com.

RACINE, WISCONSIN - ARRL/VEC

Monthly - first Saturday, except January, July, and August.

Monthly exams are given 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. at the Red Cross Building, 4521 Taylor Avenue, Racine. Walk-ins are permitted.

Talk in on 147.87/27. Inquiries and registrations

should be directed to Robert N. Jensen, W0WLN, 5616 Cambridge Lane #6, Racine, WI. Telephone (414) 886-8551.

TOMAHAWK, WI Last Saturday of every month, Jan. thru Oct.

Tomahawk Volunteer Examiners (ARRL/VEC). Tomahawk, WI. No preregistration required, but appointment would be appreciated. Registration at 8:30 a.m. and testings starts at 9:00 a.m. For location or other information, inquire on 145.43 MHz, repeater or contact: Terry Collins, KB9AUP, W6564 Highway 8, Tomahawk, WI 54487. Telephone (715) 453-4633.

APPLETON, WI - ARRL/VEC MANITOWOC, WI (HAMFEST) KAUKAUNA, WI (HAMFEST)

Conducted by the Fox Cities ARC VE team. All test sessions in Appleton are held at James Madison Jr. High, 2020 S. Carpenter Street. Testing starting at 8 a.m. For Appleton information, contact George R. Croy, W9MDP, 2113 Twin Willows Drive, Appleton, WI 54914. (920) 730-0967. For Manitowoc or Kaukauna information, contact Larry Siebers, KD9IA (920) 759-1167.

OSHKOSH (OMRO)

The Oshkosh VE Team will administer Amateur Radio exams monthly on the first Saturday. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. and exams will be given from 9 a.m. until noon at the Omro Community Center, 130 W. Larrabee, Omro, WI. Walk-ins welcomed. Bring a good quality photocopy of your original license and any other necessary documents such as a CSCE, etc. The first session will be through W5YI/VEC, and then sessions will alternate between ARRL/VEC and W5YI/VEC. The exam fee is \$6.35. For more information, please call Dick Lemme, K9FA, at (920) 235-0987, e-mail lemme@vbe.com, or write Dick at 826 Jefferson Street, Oshkosh, WI 54901.

OSHKOSH, WI (W5YI/VEC)

December 19, 1998, February 02, 1999, May 22, 1999, August 21, 1999, October 16, 1999, December 18, 1999.

Testing at UW Oshkosh, College of Nursing Building, 845 Algoma Blvd., Room 211, Oshkosh, WI. Park free in lot 29 on side of building or in lot 25 behind the building. Registration start at 9 a.m. Bring 2 forms of id etc. Walk-ins are welcome. Contact: Mark Miller, N9WT, (920) 321-1662 or Mike O'Conner, K9II (920) 321 7093.

EAU CLAIRE, WI

The Eau Claire ARC will hold exam sessions on the second Saturday in the months of January, April, and October, as well as on the date of their annual hamfest during the summer. For more info: Steve Bluem KA9OMY 715-839-6509

SHEBOYGAN, WI

Wednesday dates: Registration 1830 hrs. testing 1900 hrs.

Saturday dates: Registration 0830 hrs. testing 0900 hrs.

Testing site is: Red Cross/Boy Scout Office Building (lower level), 2032 Erie Ave., Sheboygan, WI.

Test site has limited handicap accessibility. Walk-ins are OK but preregistration would be appreciated. Test fee is \$6.35. Make checks payable to SCARC VE Testing. All class tests administered. Contact: Art Pahr, K9XJ, (920) 876-2370. e-mail <k9xj@excel.net>

ONALASKA, WI (ARRL/VEC)

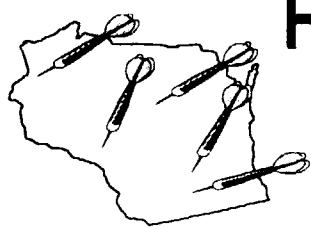
The Riverland Amateur Radio Club will hold test sessions at the Onalaska Public Library, 741 Oak Avenue South, registration begins at 9:0 a.m. with testing at 9:15 a.m. Please bring two forms of identification and two copies of all original documents, CSCEs, license, etc. For more information contact: Roger Reader, KA9BKK, 526 13th Ave. N., Onalaska, WI 54650. (608) 783-0723.

MEDFORD, WI (ARRL/VEC)

Taylor County Area AREC. Registration starts 8:30 a.m., testing starts 9:00 a.m. Location: The conference room in the lower level of the Sheriff's annex to the Taylor County Courthouse, corner of 2nd and Ogden Sts., Medford, WI. Take Ogden St. west off of Hwy. 13 to the courthouse. Park in the lots on the east or south sides of the courthouse or on the street. PLEASE use the entrance on the south side of the courthouse and watch of the signs. Walk-ins welcome. Contact: Tom Hrdina, N9GEN, 2373 Willow Ave., Medford, WI 54451. (715) 748-4054

PEWAUKEE, WI

With the summer break and Labor Day, we won't be able to start exams again until October. The dates are: (continued on page 15)



HERE and THERE

Phase 3D satellite to undergo testing

Amateur Radio's Phase 3D spacecraft undergoes pre-launch testing this month in the Washington, DC, area to analyze the satellite's ability to withstand the harsh environment of space. Thermal-vacuum testing is set to begin October 20 at Orbital Sciences Corporation in Germantown, Maryland.

The spacecraft was transported in a well-padded truck from the Phase 3D Integration Lab in Orlando to the DC area. AMSAT-NA Executive Vice President Keith Baker, KB1SF, says the satellite will be placed in a large chamber for the thermal-vacuum test, and most of the air will be removed. "Then the temperature will be cycled up and down to simulate the harsh heating and cooling environment that the satellite is expected to encounter while in space," he said. A complete thermal cycle runs about 36 hours. The Phase 3D satellite will endure five cycles.

Barring unforeseen problems with the thermal-vacuum test, Baker said, the satellite now is slated to undergo vibration testing to simulate the launcher environment either late this year or early next year.

While the satellite was in town, Maryland-DC AMSAT Coordinator Pat Kilroy, WD8LAQ, was arranging opportunities for AMSAT members and "family" to get a look at the spacecraft before it enters the test chamber.

For more information on Phase 3D, see the Phase 3D Spacecraft Integration Laboratory Web site, <http://www.magicnet.net/~phase3d/>.

The ARRL Letter

FCC denies KV4FZ petition for reconsideration

The KV4FZ legal saga appears headed for the courtroom. The FCC has denied a petition for reconsideration filed by Herbert L. Schoenbohm, KV4FZ. Earlier this year, the FCC upheld the supplemental initial decision of an administrative law judge denying Schoenbohm's application to renew his Amateur Radio licenses. The latest FCC action -- on October 6 -- affirms that finding. The next step is the United States Court of

Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit.

In 1992, Schoenbohm, of Kingshill, Virgin Islands, was convicted in federal court of fraudulently using a counterfeit access device to obtain long-distance telephone service. In 1994, the FCC designated his ham radio renewal application for hearing. ALJ Edward Luton subsequently found that Schoenbohm had "engaged in misrepresentation and lacked candor" in testifying about his 1992 felony telephone toll fraud conviction and his solicitation of ex parte presentations. The FCC said his behavior, in combination with his fraud conviction, justified nonrenewal of his ham ticket.

Schoenbohm maintains that the FCC should renew his license because his conviction was several years ago, his sentence light, and he's had a spotless record and been fully rehabilitated. The FCC disagreed, however. Schoenbohm has been allowed to continue operating as KV4FZ until his administrative and judicial appeals are exhausted.

The ARRL Letter

FCC fines Florida ham in interference case

The FCC has levied a \$2500 fine on a Florida ham for malicious interference on a business radio service frequency. Jeffrey G. Guss, KF4MWT, of Palm Bay, Florida, was cited by the Commission following an investigation of several months that also involved malicious interference to an amateur repeater.

In February 1997, the FCC's Tampa office responded to complaints of unauthorized transmissions containing foul language and threats on 154.6 MHz. Agents tracked the transmissions to Guss's residence, but he denied having equipment that could transmit on 154.6 MHz. The FCC sent Guss a warning letter regarding the unlicensed 154.6 MHz operation that had been traced to his residence, but he failed to reply as required.

Later that year, the Tampa office responded to complaints of malicious interference to an amateur repeater. Using DF gear, agents tracked the transmissions to a mobile source and ultimately spotted Guss riding in the bed of a pick-up truck. Guss denied knowledge of the transmissions on the amateur repeater, but when agents asked to inspect his amateur station, they found a hand-held transceiver that transmitted on 154.6 MHz. They also spotted what appeared to be an RF amplifier inside a vehicle Guss owns, but he refused permission to inspect it.

An Official Notice of Violation went out last September, but Guss again failed to reply as required. Last February, the Tampa office issued a Notice of Apparent Liability to Guss for unlicensed operation on 154.6 MHz, for failing to permit inspection of radio equipment in his van, and for failing to respond to the FCC's correspondence.

An FCC review upheld the initial findings in the case. On October 7, the FCC ordered Guss to pay the \$2500 fine within 30 days. There is no indication in the

Silent Key

George W. Pasdirtz, W9JY, became a silent key on October 3, 1998 at age 83. He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Mary, son George and daughter Mary. George retired after 45 years of dedicated service with Square D Company. Was a long time member of the ARRL. George was an accomplished artist and had a passion for golf.

October 5, 1998, *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*
via Richard Regent, K9GDF

order that Guss's amateur ticket or the Land Mobile Radio Service license he holds will be jeopardized, however.

The ARRL Letter

Delayed space station schedule postpones ARISS

Delays in the start of construction for the International Space Station will postpone the permanent presence of ham radio in space. After meeting with a NASA delegation, the Russian Space Agency rescheduled the launch of the first crew to early next year. Originally set for launch next summer, the first crew now will go into space in January 2000. "So, you won't have an Amateur Radio signal coming out of the ISS until then," said NASA's SAREX Principal Investigator Matt Bordelon, KCSBTL.

The first crew will consist of US astronaut William M. Shepherd, as the expedition commander. Shepherd is studying for his ham ticket. Accompanying him will be Russian cosmonauts Yuri Gidzenko and Sergei Krikalev, U5MIR. All three have previous space flight experience. The crew has been training for their launch on a Soyuz vehicle and a planned five-month mission on the ISS.

The change in launch date was blamed on budget-based delays in Russia's completion of the Functional Cargo Block or service module for the ISS. Launch of the service module now is set for next July. The service module is the section of the ISS in which astronauts and cosmonauts will live during construction and will be ham radio's first permanent beach head in space. Russia's financial woes have put its space program well behind the curve in recent months.

At the same meetings between US and Russian space officials, Russia agreed to sell its research time aboard the first phase of the ISS and unspecified hardware to the US for \$60 million.

The latest delay means that permanent Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) equipment will not be on the air until after the Russian service module is in space and occupied. However, Amateur Radio has been manifested aboard the ISS as "necessary crew equipment."

Once aboard the ISS, ham radio, through the SAREX program, will serve as an educational tool through worldwide school contacts and as an outreach to the general public.

The ARRL Letter

HF frequencies for space shuttle audio

Shuttle to ground audio from the Goddard Amateur Radio Club in Greenbelt, MD can be heard on the following frequencies:

WA3NAN		
3.860 LSB	7.185 LSB	14.295 USB
21.395 USB		28.650 USB

The 1999 ARRL Handbook for Radio Amateurs

The 1999 edition of The ARRL Handbook for Radio Amateurs begins shipping later this month. Last year's edition sold out, so consider ordering early. The 1999 Handbook includes several new projects, including a 40-A switching power supply, an HF amplifier (using a Svetlana 4CX1600B), an updated high-power antenna tuner, and a voice keyer.

Templates are back in this edition, too! Builders will find most of the circuit board templates available.

Published since 1926, this 76th edition of the Handbook continues its longstanding reputation as the standard in applied electronics and communications, used by radio amateurs and professionals alike. The 1200-page resource for electronic theory, data, and new projects is revised annually.

The 1999 edition of The ARRL Handbook for Radio Amateurs is still just \$32. Order item 1816. Call toll-free 888-277-5289 or visit ARRLWeb, <http://www.arrl.org/>.

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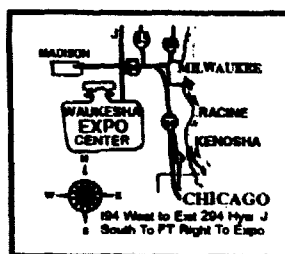
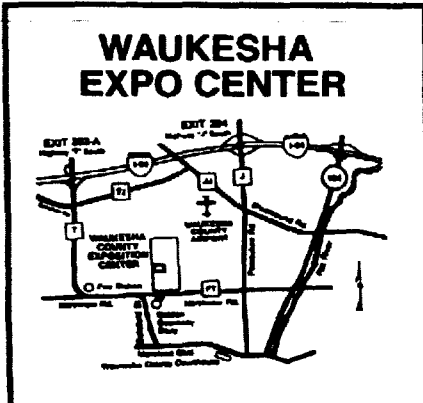
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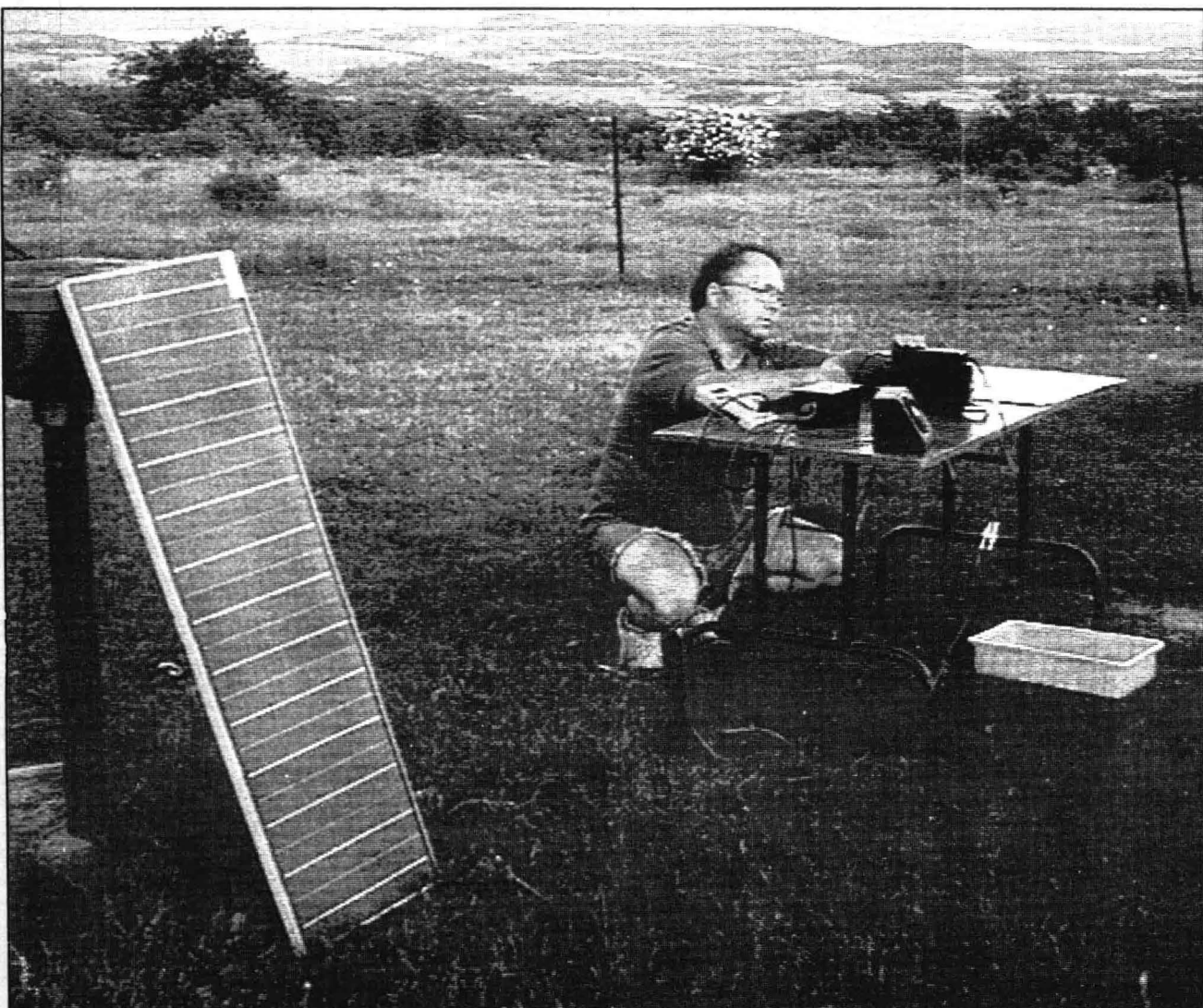
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TALK IN 146.820 - PL 127.3





A few years ago, Everett Yost, KB9XI (Mr. NiCd), provided some power for the Yellow Thunder ARC's Field Day operation, courtesy of a solar panel and a bank of batteries. We hope this photo reproduces at least well enough for Everett and the panel to be recognizable.

remains available on CD-ROM!

The ARRL Letter

Hundreds of hams volunteer for flood duty

The death toll is approaching 30 in central and southern Texas as flooding that began last weekend (October 20) continues to affect downstream communities. South Texas Section Manager Ray Taylor, N5NAV, reports that at least 425 hams are active in Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Arkansas handling various flood-related duties ranging from net control to shelter communication. With public telephone systems already overloaded or out of service, hams have been supporting the Texas Department of Public Safety by providing communication between its Austin headquarters and affected communities such as Victoria and Corpus Christi.

Taylor says the worst damage so far has been in the New Braunfels area in Comal County where he lives. Hams are providing communication assistance for the Dallas-based Baptist Men's Kitchens feeding program there and elsewhere as well as for the Salvation Army and other outside relief organizations. Taylor credited Comal County EC Todd Covington, N5IJR, with taking time away from his own flood-damaged home to roll out the PrimeCo communications van and pressing it into flood duty. He says two repeaters in the van are aiding Red Cross communication.

San Antonio and Bexar County also were hard-hit by the flooding. Bexar County EC Neil Martin, WA5FSR, says amateur have been providing continuous support for the Red Cross and other agencies since midday last Saturday.

Six shelters were open in the San Antonio area. Another 20 or more shelters remain open between San Antonio and the Gulf Coast, and additional shelters were being opened as other areas were affected to the east and southeast of San Antonio.

The Red Cross has had to rely more heavily than usual on ham radio assistance because its San Antonio headquarters was flooded out. The Red Cross has set up temporary headquarters at Fort Sam Houston, but it has only a few telephone lines available, Martin explained. "This lack of telephone capability is why we are having to man all of the shelters 24 hours a day," he said.

Martin said the long hours have begun to take their toll on the amateurs who have volunteered for duty, and he and Taylor have expressed concerns about finding relief operators. "We've had awful good cooperation, but we don't have enough operators without pulling them from somewhere else," Taylor said. He said he expects hams to be active in the flood emergency "for another three weeks."

The flooding and tornadoes last weekend knocked out power and telephone service for tens of thousands of Texas residents. In San Antonio, the 911 system was overloaded at one point with calls prompted by flood-re-

Please turn to page 8

Guest Editorial

By Sherm Carr, W9NGT

Jim, K9ZZ, has kindly invited me to write such an item for *Smoke Signals*, but did not specify 'he topic(s). Also, he promised not to edit this "epistle" in any way. (He is a trusting soul!)

Smoke Signals has been published continuously since it began as the club newsletter for the Yellow Thunder Radio Club, some thirty years ago or more. It has grown to prestigious status, and one of the leading Amateur publications in the nation, or the world, for that matter. *Smoke Signals* has earned a number of national awards for excellence in reporting Amateur doings, and some of its feature articles. There is much more, but this short summary serves to point out that *Smoke Signals* comes with impeccable credentials.

Smoke Signals has been around for so long, and is so reliable, that we tend to take it for granted, like the mail and daily newspaper deliveries. With this rather wordy preface however, comes what prompted this effort. All these years, Jim, K9ZZ, Ken, K9EN, Jim Decker, WB9UQT (SK), and one or two others at times, have devoted virtually all their spare time to the publication of *Smoke Signals*, with no monetary compensation, and at times, at some expense out of their own pocket(s).

Smoke Signals, if the present trend continues, will be in serious financial trouble. At present, revenue barely pays the expense of publication. If revenue does not increase, with publishing and postage expenses continuing upward, *Smoke Signals* will cease to be, as neither Jim or Ken can afford the cost to keep *Smoke Signals* afloat. Further, circulation cannot be increased without increased revenue. Still further, any further subscription increase is simply not feasible. So, what is the answer? Obviously it is increased revenue. *Smoke Signals* reaches a lot of Amateurs, and ads placed therein are effective.

Another item: The subject of typos, or printing errors. During a recent visit with Jim, he was all upset because he got bawled out for either a typo or detail omission, or a one word misprint, or something. I didn't press for details, but gathered that it did not create anything serious. From what I could gather, (and checking the issue in question,) it appeared that, and to quote my old Hoosier uncle, the complainer was "picking flyspecks out of pepper." Jim fixed the problem as quick as he could, which is all he could do. In defense of Jim's diligence, I have received *Smoke Signals* since its beginning, and I can state that errors have been extremely rare. On any given day, I can detect errors in a major Milwaukee newspaper, and those people are highly paid. The defense rests.

And now comes my part, which, I have to admit, is the toughest, because I must use whatever status I have gained through the years, in behalf of what I consider one of the premier attributes of our State of Wisconsin, The *Badger State Smoke Signals*. So, with whatever influence I may enjoy, I appeal to all Amateurs, to support *Smoke Signals* with both personal and company advertising. It is not charity; I can vouch for the effectiveness of *Smoke Signals* ads, as can those who routinely place ads therein. Get in touch with Jim or Ken; they can fill in the details. And finally, I sincerely hope this helps the efforts of several very dedicated people, to keep a superb publication going. My best regards, thanks to all.

73, Sherm, W9NGT

Netherlands special operation on VLF set for November 14 UTC

A special CW VLF operation will be on the air in the Netherlands beginning at 0900 UTC November 14. The frequency will be 136.5 kHz, and the call will be PA2NJJN.

The operation will run 150 watts to a wire antenna, tethered to a kite at about 920 feet in the air. If there is not adequate wind, the experiment will not take place.

According to our Dutch reporter, Richard, the last operation was done using a kite-flown wire antenna about 225 feet up. That station was heard in France, Belgium, the United Kingdom, Australia, and other countries.

The experiment is being done by Nico, PA2NJJN; Wim, PE1PFR, and Jaap, PA3GUC. Helping will be Richard Middel and Jeroen de Rijber, who will take their license exams in early November.

Reports may be sent to PA2NJJN c/o PI8AWT, or to richard.middel@hetnet.nl.

The U.S. currently has no VLF allocation for Amateur Radio, but other countries have been opening space for ham operation in the VLF range. The ARRL has asked FCC for such an allocation here. The November 1998 issue of *QST* has an excellent VLF article. Back to our roots, 200 meters and UP!!

Thanks to Richard for the information.

Richard Middel
The Netherlands

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NOVEMBER 1998

The Computer Corner

By Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR • 105 Martin Drive
Port Washington, WI 53074-9654
(414) 284-9346
WB9RQR @ N9PBY.EN63BI.WI.USA.NA
SKAPLAN @ MCW.EDU



No. 60: How To Add A Second Hard Drive

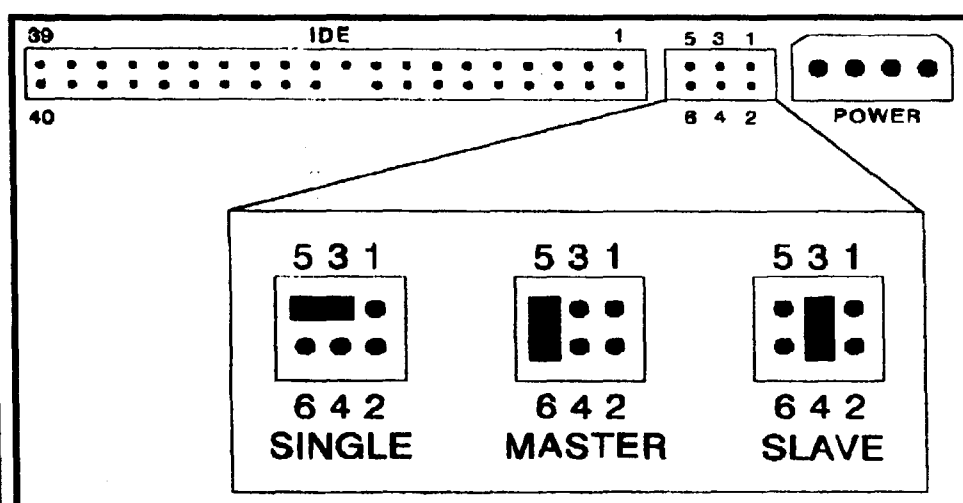
This article was started last May, just after the Ozaukee Radio Club Swapfest (also known as the "Cedarburg Swapfest"). A gentleman stopped by the front table where I act as a sort of barker for the event. He purchased a copy of the First 48, and asked how he could add a second hard drive to his system. I thought my answer might be of general interest, so here it is in some depth. The problem of adding a second drive is certainly solvable, but it brings in several issues that must be addressed for a satisfactory result.

We will assume that you have adequate space inside your case for a second drive. Don't forget that you need to mechanically mount it somewhere in the bowels of the computer - perhaps in an unused drive bay, or even on the floor of the case. If you choose the latter approach, don't forget to raise it a little so that air can circulate around all surfaces. One way is to use a narrow rim of double-stick foam tape around the drive's housing to hold it in place against the sheet metal of the case bottom. Yes, the drive case should really be electrically grounded to the computer case, but I have installed many without a separate ground and have had no problems. The black wire on the power cable seems to present an adequate ground path.

The next consideration is the 40-pin data cable. If your machine is relatively new, the data cable may be plugged into pins on the motherboard. Look to see if there are two sets of pins, labeled Channel A (or 1) and B (or 2). If so, you can simply plug the new drive's cable into B. If the motherboard has only a single 40-pin set, or if you are using an IDE adapter card with provisions for only one IDE cable, then the cable must have a second connector if you want to add a second hard drive. If it does not, you need to replace it with a new cable, but that is no big deal. A new one can be had for well under \$5.

Let's assume you have provisions for only one IDE cable and it already has connectors for two hard drives. Take a look at the cable. Note that there are no twists in the wires, as opposed to a dual floppy cable, which commonly does have a twist in the wires between the connector for the A: and B: drives. Well, since there are no twists in the hard drive cable, that means that both drives see exactly the same signals coming down the wires to them from the computer, and either one can use the same wire to send their data to the computer. How does the computer know that data coming to it is from drive C? How does drive C: know that it is C: and not D:?

The answer is simple: jumpers. All modern IDE hard drives have a couple of pins, usually back near the data cable pins and the power cable socket, which designate that the drive is a MASTER or SLAVE. The MASTER becomes drive C: while the SLAVE becomes drive D:. For example, here is the jumper scheme for Western Digital Caviar Hard Drives:



This view is looking at the rear of the drive. On the left is the 40-pin connector for the IDE cable, and on the right is the 4-pin power connector. Between these two connectors are six pins. In the magnified view of these pins labeled SINGLE, a jumper is slipped on pins 3 and 5, thus shorting them. This is the configuration if the drive is the only drive in the computer. If there are two hard drives, one (C:) must be the boss and the other (D:) the slave. To configure a drive as C:, short pins 5 and 6 by slipping a jumper on them, as shown in the MASTER inset. Similarly, slip a jumper on pins 3 and 4 if a drive is to be used as the D: drive. Only one drive can be a master, and only one can be a slave.

This scheme ONLY APPLIES to WESTERN DIGITAL CAVIAR drives. If you are using a Seagate, Toshiba, Fujitsu, Connor or even a different model of a Western Digital drive, you must use the specific jumper scheme for that drive. Look to see if the jumper scheme is printed on the top or side of the drive, or it may be in the manual that came with the drive. Otherwise, you will need to surf the web for the data. Knowledge is power, and without it, you are lost. You must have the data to get a second drive to work.

If the added drive is new, it will come with directions and software that will help with the installation, including telling your computer's BIOS that the new drive is in place. However, if it is a used drive, you will need to set your BIOS manually (using the setup menu usually accessed at boot up by pressing the DEL key), unless your BIOS has provisions for automatically detecting hard drives. You must then use the DOS FDISK program to partition the drive, followed by FORMAT to prepare the disk surface for reading and writing data. Be sure you know what you are doing. Both FDISK and FORMAT will destroy data if you accidentally ask either program to go to work on your original drive!

So, let us suppose you successfully added that second 800 MB hard drive that you picked up at the swapfest for \$20. It is now happily working in your system as drive D:. What are some other issues? Well, for one, your CD-ROM will probably not work anymore. Why? It was probably designated before as drive D:, and now you have added a hard drive, which automatically takes the D: designation! You must go into your

CONFIG.SYS and AUTOEXEC.BAT files (if you have them), find every reference to your CD-ROM drive as D:, and change them all to E:. Or, in Windows 95, click MY COMPUTER, then CONTROL PANEL, then ADD NEW HARDWARE and inform Windows that you have a new hard drive. After that, if you want to move any of your applications from the C: to the new D: drive, you will need to enter each application's setup to inform it of its new position in the scheme of things.

Is all this inordinately complex? No, not really. Does it require a nit-picking attention to detail? You bet! Is there an easier way? Yep, there sure is. You can get software that will move applications for you and change all references from C: to D: automatically. It is called Uninstaller Mover, and it comes bundled with Partition Magic, one of the best software values around, as I mentioned in A LEASH FOR WINDOWS 95, Number 43 in this series, June 1997. Indeed, the wonderful Partition Magic program itself can ease the whole task for you. It can partition and automatically format the new hard drive, as well as resize any partitions you might care to change on either drive. Partition Magic is absolutely a Must Have program. Can't find your copy of A LEASH FOR WINDOWS 95? Send me \$10 and I will mail you THE FIRST 48, a compilation of the first four dozen articles in this series. The book sports over 100 pages of good computer information, written for hams by a ham, and it even includes an accurate, useful index. The comments I have received by hams who have purchased them are very good. Any profits go to my OZARES group for equipment used in emergency communications. Happy computing!

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In the Berries

By Don Evenson, K9JYX
401 11th Street
Baraboo WI 53913

WARRENS, WI - About every three years if my work schedule allows, my wife Bonnie and I, on about the third weekend in September, make the trek to Warrens, WI to partake in the annual Warrens Cranberry Festival.

What is the Warrens Cranberry Festival? Basically, the festival is a celebration of the annual cranberry harvest, of which again this year Wisconsin is going to beat out Massachusetts for total numbers of barrels of the tart red berries harvested.

A few days before that weekend I heard Randy, N9UOM, talking with another Ham and the conversation was about setting up communications for the Cranberry festival. After Randy finished his QSO I gave him a call and asked what they were setting up for and that I was planning on coming up that weekend. Randy gave me a quick briefing and I said that when we got to Warrens I would look them up at their communications command post.

We left Baraboo for Warrens Saturday morning, not too early as I worked until 2:00 a.m.

After passing the split at Tomah and heading north on I 94, I gave Randy a call and told him where we were. He told me what exit to take and to identify myself at the road blocks and that I was going to the communications command post and the law enforcement officials graciously passed me through.

Then with the generosity of Becky, KB9OJX, we were invited to park in her back yard which turned out to be the 'official' ham radio parking lot. This saved us a very long wait in a long line of traffic which precedes entrance to the festival and a very very long walk that you otherwise face after finally getting parked.

After a few block walk down the main street and across the railroad tracks I found the communications van.

Manning the van which was painted white and which looked like in its previous life it delivered bread and bakery goods were Randy, N9UOM, Dave, KB9OKD and John, KA9ETH. Scott, KB9GCV was liaison at the law enforcement command post.

The van was equipped with VHF/UHF, HF and a rig on the public service police bands.

The equipment was powered by deep cycle marine batteries and had a built in battery charger when AC current was available at a scene. The police radio ran off of the truck supply and was mainly used enroute to the scenes.

Randy explained that the van was donated to the Monroe county ARES by Monroe county emergency government, and is housed in the county garage which makes it ideal for working on equipment.

They have further plans for equipping the van as equipment becomes available.

In talking with Randy, John and Dave I found out that they assist with communications for crowd and traffic control, dealing with lost parents, and people who couldn't remember where they parked their cars. They also assist in getting EMS and fire to any situations that may occur.

On the Saturday we were there Randy told me that the little town of Warrens probably had close to 100,000 people crowded into a very small area.

In that area were 650 arts and crafts booths, 300 booths of flea marketers, and over 100 stalls of farmers market. You really cannot see what Warrens looks like with all of the activities going on, which include live entertainment, food stands and on Sunday a gigantic parade which the ARES also handles communications for.

Also on Friday and Saturday, tours are given of the cranberry bogs and the Ocean Spray processing plant.

I also noticed a helicopter was giving sightseeing rides.

While visiting with the crew a fellow walked up and introduced himself as Buis Lien, KI0KU, from the twin cities. As he was walking around he spotted the van and came over to pay a visit. (Must be all those antennas.)

I bid the fellows farewell and Bonnie and I shopped until we dropped, then just a short walk back to KB9OJX to retrieve our vehicle, and after a short drive we were back on the highway heading home.

It was a great way to spend a Saturday, having an eyeball QSO with a great group of Hams sacrificing their weekend to providing public service communications for another event. □

Wisconsin Amateur Internet Addresses

CALL	NAME	CITY	E-MAIL/URL
N9AAA	Norbert P. Aurit	Janesville	naurit@inwave.com www.inwave.com/~naurit
K9AAV	Dennis Dworak	Kewaunee	ddworak@itol.com
KG9AD	Gary Luthardt	Marinette	drwho@cybrzn.com
W0AIH	Paul Bittner	Eau Claire	w0aih@eau.net
KC2AK	Stas Wnukowski	Madison	Staskc2ak@aol.com
WA9AKV	Dick Schank	New Berlin	drs@mail.gmtcom.com
KG9AL	Mike Jesse	Shawano	kg9al@wi.frontiercomm.net
KB9AMM	Scott R. Cole	Green Bay	kb9amm@juno.com
KE6ATW	Tim Kubichek	Manitowoc	DRKuby@tcbi.com
KE6ATX	Ryan Kubichek	Manitowoc	DRKuby@tcbi.com
AF9B	Bill Fletcher	Madison	af9b@itis.com
AF9B	Bill Fletcher	Madison	bfletcher@ecb.state.wi.us
AA9BB	Jim Wiskow	Arcadia	jcwiskow@win.bright.net
N9BBQ	Lloyd J. Peterman	Salem	lpeterman@acronet.net
N9BGH	Steve Bukosky	Waukesha	sbukosky@execpc.com ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/sbukosky/
AA9BJ	Tom Hetzel	Sheboygan	aa9bj@excel.net
KA9BLI	Jacob Derenne	Luxemburg	ka9bli@itol.com
N9BMS	Dave Baldrige	Appleton	dbald@powernt.com www.powernetonline.com/~dbald/
KG9BO	Josh Housey	Sheboygan	lhousey@excel.net
K8BP	Clarke W. Cooper	Two Rivers	k8bp@juno.com
N9BQM	Joel Papke	Pittsville	n9bqm@juno.com
WA9BQW	Jule Kish	La Crosse	wa9bqw@juno.com
W6BSF	Fred Neuenfeldt (Mancorad Club)	Manitowoc	fredw6bsf@lakefield.net
KB9BYP	Jeff Schmeichel	Appleton	kb9byp@execpc.com
WA9BZW	Al Hovey, Jr.	Waukesha	hoveya@jadetech.com
N9CK	Steven J. Franzen	McFarland	N9CK@inxpress.net
N9CLG	Ed Pliner	Pittsville	n9clg@badger.lds.net
KF9CS	Mark Heimmermann (WAR Secretary)	Appleton	kf9cs@execpc.com www.execpc.com/~kf9cs
KB9CSW	David Spearing	Portage	kb9csw@juno.com
KG8CX	Ed Engelman	Menominee, MI	KG8CX@webtv.net
KA9D	William G. Menzel	Wisconsin Rapids	menzelw@4u.net www.wctc.net/~menzelw
KB9DAC	Kevin King	Shawano	kb9dac@juno.com
K9DB	Paul Nelles (Rib Mtn. Rptr. Assn.)	Mosinee	nelles@dwave.net
N9DG	Duane Grotophorst (ex KA9HKL)	Sauk City	dgtrotophorst@jvlnet.com
N9DIY	Judy Papke	Pittsville	n9diy@juno.com
W9DKH	Bob Klein	Twin Lakes	bklois@techheadnet.com
N9DMS	Dave Schaeffer	Madison	n9dms@globaldialog.com
N9DXZ	Dave Asplin	Marshfield	asplind@gabby.mfldclin.edu
K9EF	Woody Minar	St. Croix Falls	woodyminar@centuryinter.net
W9EH	Bob Burgermeister (ex WB9IUY)	Kenosha	burgerb@execpc.com
N9EIL	Debra Kroll	Wisconsin Rapids	n9eil@tzn.net
K9EN	Ken Ebner	Portage	kebner@palacenet.net
KB9ENO	Bill Niemuth (WAR Vice Chair.)	Hortonville	bniemuth@execpc.com
W9BOA	Ron Martinmaki	La Crosse	flyham@centuryinter.net
KA9EOX	Jack Tinsman	Shawano	ka9eox@juno.com
KB9EQI	Karl E. Simonson (VE Adams Co. ARC)	Necedah	kb9eqi@iname.com
WD9ESU	Larry Shields	Lodi	larrysh@itis.com
NX9F	Jim Ley	Menomonie	leyj@uwstout.edu
K9FA	Dick Lemme (ex KB9FA)	Oshkosh	lemme@vbe.com
KA9FAS	Mary Eiden	Stevens Point	maeiden@coredcs.com www.coredcs.com/~maeiden/index.htm
KE4FE	Gary Day	Rib Lake	ke4fe@newnorth.net
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KA9FOX	Scott Neader	Onalaska	neader@centuryinter.net www.QTH.com/ka9fox
K9FZ	Al Lapinski (ex AA9MP)	Hudson	alap@pop3.spacestar.net
N0QAF	M. L. "Pete" Deets	Madison	15.pd@madison-business.com
W2QC	Jim Cronn	Two Rivers	cronnjwc@cftnet.com
KA9GCW	Jim Kline	Ladysmith	jkline@centuryinter.net
K9GDF	Rich Regent	Milwaukee	regent@execpc.com
W9GF	Jerry Fadness	Stevens Point	maingan@coredcs.com www.coredcs.com/~maingan
N6GFV	Charles Smalley	Madison	n6gfv@compuserve.com
W9GHN	Duane A. Olson	Amherst Junction	olson@wi-net.com
KG9GH	Eric Janssen	Marinette	kg9inegh@mrnet.com
N9GHZ	Mike Schoenfuss	Abbotsford	muzikman@pcpros.net www.pcpros.net/~muzikman
N9GJJ	Eugene Tetzlaff	Holmen	ETHOLMEN@AOL.COM
N9QLG	Debbi King	Eau Claire	kingdr@uwec.edu
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W9GM	Ken Weigel	La Crosse	w9gm@execpc.com
WA9GON	Gerry Radtke (Fox Cities ARC)	Appleton	geradtke@execpc.com
N9GQK	Harry W. Goodwin	Green Bay	n9gqk@dcct.com
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K9QU	Michel Y. Roy	Baileys Harbor	mroy@itol.com
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WB9HHW	Bob Ringstad	Ladysmith	hhw@ladysmith.net
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WF9I	Tom King	Eau Claire	kingtw@uwec.edu
KG9IA	Bob Jones	Placerville, CA	darshon@hotmail.com
W9IBQ	Bob Selbrede	West Salem	BobSelbrede@centuryinter.net
KL7IBV	Larry Faehling	Clintonville	kl7ibv@amsat.org
KB9IKL	Chris Menart	Howards Grove	cmenart@excel.net
KB9IQL	Marty Werner	Medford	mwerner@waun.ldsnet.com
N9IQZ	Janice Schaden (Mancorad Club)	Two Rivers	schaden@mail.tcbi.com
WD9IUV	John Bedore	Milwaukee	johnmilw@yahoo.com
W9JXG	Don Michalski (Official Observer)	Madison	dem@sal.wisc.edu
N9IXO	Ralph Gray	Richland Center	rgray@mmwt.net
K9JHK	Gerald "Jerry" Klabunde	Sheboygan	k9jhk@danet.net www.digitalaxis.com
K9JIG	Denis Christopherson	De Pere	k9jig@execpc.com
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KB9KEF	Bernie Kopp (Skywarn)	Milwaukee	bkopp@execpc.com www.execpc.com/~bkopp
WA9KFL	Pete Tillema	Mount Pleasant	petetillema@juno.com

FCC Issues Universal Licensing System rules

The FCC has issued its long-awaited Report and Order on the Universal Licensing System, which affects all Wireless Telecommunications Bureau licensees. Among other things, the ULS will result in replacing Amateur Radio's familiar FCC Form 610 series with a new Form 605. The new rules become official 60 days after publication in The Federal Register-sometime around the end of the year. The FCC said it expects to have the ULS fully operational by next April. Using the ULS, applicants and licensees will be able to file, modify, and renew electronically. Access to the ULS is via <http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/uls/>.



The FCC's action consolidates approximately 40 existing forms into four ULS applications, including the new Form 605. All WTB application and filing procedures have been consolidated. Electronic filing in the ULS will not yet be mandatory for individual amateurs. Hams will have the option of filing electronically or on paper. However, electronic filing via the ULS will be required for Volunteer Examiner Coordinators in the Amateur Service.

Under the ULS, amateurs will use Form 605, the Quick-Form Application for Authorization in the Ship, Aircraft, Amateur, Restricted and Commercial Operator, and General Mobile Radio Services for all purposes. Applicants may continue to use the old forms for six months after the new rules go into effect, however.

Responding to comments from the ARRL and the W5YI Group, the FCC said it would include the Physician's Certification of Disability (Physician's Certification) on the new Form 605 in Part 2 of Schedule D.

As part of its Report and Order on the ULS, the FCC also issued amended rules (in WT Docket 96-188) to authorize visiting foreign hams to operate in the US pursuant to recent international reciprocal operating agreements. "We conclude that all alien amateur radio reciprocal operation should be authorized by rule," the FCC said. This means that foreign hams holding a CEPT radio-amateur license from a CEPT country or an International Amateur Radio Permit issued by a participating CITEL country may operate while visiting the US without having to apply for permission. Additionally, it will be easier for US hams to operate in participating countries in Europe and the Americas. The authority would not extend to US citizens claiming second citizenship and an amateur license from another country, however.

Against ARRL objections, the FCC eliminated the one-year term for an alien reciprocal permit and will not require an FCC license document. The FCC noted that the new system is similar to the one already in place for US and Canadian hams to operate in each other's countries.

The FCC said it will require the submission of a Taxpayer Identification Number by applicants and licensees using ULS, "consistent with the requirements of the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996." Some commenters, particularly amateur operators, argued against the requirement, saying that disclosure of a TIN-typically a Social Security Number-raised privacy concerns and was unnecessary to the Commission's regulatory goals. But, the FCC said its security measures will limit access to TIN data both online and to FCC staff. "Once data has been entered into ULS, sensitive data such as TINs will not be accessible to the public," the FCC said. The FCC has not addressed how it plans to handle applicants who do not have a TIN, such as foreign nationals who hold FCC licenses.

The FCC stood by its plan to use certain eligible private-sector entities, on a strictly voluntary basis, to issue club and military recreation station call signs. The FCC said it plans to accept the services of any qualified organizations to issue club and military recreation call signs.

Both text and formatted versions of the complete Report and Order, WT Dockets 98-20 and 96-188, are available on the FCC Web site, <http://www.fcc.gov>.

ARRL Bulletin 87, 10/22/98



SSB

SELL SWAP BUY

OUR WANT ADS GET RESULTS

WANTED: Top tilt-over section for a Rohn 82 tilt-over tower. Contact W9FWQ or write jahneman@ecol.net

CALL	NAME	CITY	E-MAIL/URL
WA9KFR	Walter Stasiowski	Port Washington	wa9kfr@pitnet.net
WB0KIN	Walter Friant	Marshfield	waltfriant@tzn.net
W9KKM	Fred Becker	Wisconsin Dells	fbecker@midplains.net
KA9KLZ	Art Evans	Cuba City	aevans@mhtc.net
KB9KM	Lee Pogue	Oshkosh	pogue1@vbe.com
W9KNZ	James Zabel	Brookfield	w9knzjim@execpc.com
KB9KSR	Larry Deitcher	Wisconsin Rapids	bigbiker@fastbytes.com
N6KUV	Becky Kubichek	Manitowoc	DRKuby@tcbl.com
N9KY	Bill Witt	Milwaukee	bwitt@execpc.com
KB9LAC	Robin Helman	Onalaska	RobinsNest@centuryinter.net
W9LCJ	Fern V. Fiaher	Racine	w9lcj@juno.com
N9LEA	Jason Hanson	Madison	jihanso1@students.wisc.edu
N9LHX	Seth T. Kling	Eau Claire	kinger@overlord.edp.net
N9LIA	Jacob Klein	Wausau	n9lia@pcpros.net
WB9LKC	Ray Summers	Custer	rsummers@coredcs.com
N9LKY	Jim Paul	Merrimac	n9lky@shopstop.net
N9LOO	Brian Skrentny	Jackson	n9loo@execpc.com
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K9LWI	Lawrence Steeno		lsteeno@execpc.com
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KB9LYT	Kris Scheppe	Sheboygan Falls	socrates@sts.net
W9LZQ	Kent Helman	Onalaska	khelman@centuryinter.net
W19M	Gary Sharbuno (Badger Examiners)	Brown Deer	w19m@execpc.com
K9MA	Scott Ellington	Madison	sellington@ssec.wisc.edu
KE9MA	Gene Kroll	Wisconsin Rapids	ke9ma@tzn.net
KB9MES	Carol Blecher	Livingston, TX	kb9jsgmes@juno.com
WB9MFC	Marilyn Lassanske	Wautoma	wb9mfc@wirural.net
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N0MKJ	Bill Rupp (Milw. Foxhunt Club)	Franklin	wrupp@execpc.com
KB9MKP	David DePover	Juneau	www.execpc.com/~wrupp
K9MLD	Joel Eschmann	Hartford	kb9mkp@tccom.net
AA9MT	Glenn De Baker	Manitowoc	joelw@execpc.com
K9MV	Jim Staatz ARES/SKYWARN	Eau Claire	gdebaker@lakefield.net
WK9N	James E. Noonan, III	Milwaukee	kg9mv@ecol.net
N9NBC	Ken Knoff	Kenosha	jimiii@execpc.com
N9NDP	Harvey Friedrich	Kenosha	n9nbc@qsl.net
W9NFL	Keith Belongia (ex N9PBA)	Racine	dawgts2@ix.netcom.com
N9NGH	Jim Phillips	Hudson	keithbel@execpc.com
AA9NM	Bob Pratt	Neenah	www.execpc.com/~keithbel
W9NNS	Rev. Bill Jablonske	Weston	n9ngh@amsat.org
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N9NOF	Keith Summers	DePere	wjablon@mtc.net
N9NTB	Mack Brophy	Sun Prairie	MortalKombat@mari.net
W9NUE	Roger Ken Rogers	New Berlin	http://mari.net/subzero
K9NW	Mike Tessmer	La Crosse	keiths@oct.com
N9OEW	Chuck Hanson	Appleton	dmb@execpc.com
KB9OFK	Mark Cassellius	Onalaska	rkrogers@execpc.com
K9OGT	John Klein, Jr.	Beaver Dam	K9NW@aol.com
N9OIG	Kevin Drissel	Union Grove	crhanson@athenet.net
KB9OKM	Jason Matthias	Ashland	drmarkdc@aol.com
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KY9P	Keith Shihavy	West Bend	www.qsl.net/n9oo
WS9P	Cheryl Miller	Racine	k9oo@aol.com
K9PAK	Dave Barquist	Oconomowoc	kb9ooc@ticon.net
KB9PCW	Austin Kyser	Appleton	www.ticon.net/~kb9ooc
N9PHF	Dawn Bergs	Wausau	w9ovo@itcl.com
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K9PT	Dean Andrewjeski (ex AD9W)	Mosinee	n9phs@syslan.net
W9PVD	Gordon Lauder	Websaer	wa9pov@execpc.com
KB9PZF	Jill A. Cole	Green Bay	www.execpc.com/~wa9pov
NF9Q	Eugene F. Schultz	Sheboygan	N9PQN@inxpress.net
WB9QBA	George Gruetzmacher	Sun Prairie	jrymer@ez-net.com
KA9QFI	William H. Hommel, III	Baraboo	aapt@discover-net.net
KB9QGE	Dave Christel	La Crosse	andrewjeski@pcpros.net
KB9QOE	Jeff Kane	Thiensville	w9pvd@win.bright.net
KJRI	Ray Wolfe (ex WB9LST) (Kenosha EC)	Kenosha	kb9pzf@earthlink.net
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N9ROY	Rick Plouffe	Wisconsin Dells	ggruetz@vms2.macc.wisc.edu
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KE9UE	Tom Kinney	Tomahawk	kfrts@frontiernet.net
W9UGT	Bill Aspinwall	Lodi	ceraz@execpc.com
N9UNR	Dave Barrow	Cedarburg	bolander@execpc.com
N9UFU	Joe Tenor	Green Bay	jasper@tccom.net
K9UTQ	Gene Santoski	Wisconsin Rapids	wiacwynn@newnorth.net
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N9VPZ	David Cooley	New Holstein	www.thelox.com/~sschulze
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N9VST	Mac Funkhouser	Ripon	tkinney@newnorth.net
N9VWK	Bruce V. Gray	Elroy	w9ugt@compuserve.com
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amateur license classes; 5 WPM top code speed

ARRL/VEC abstains from joining VECs' request; will file own comments

The National Conference of VECs agree with the FCC's assessment that the role of Morse code in modern communications is decreasing. By majority vote, the VEC's filed formal comments on October 1st which look toward a restructured Amateur Service containing a total of three license classes conferred by only four license examinations. They would correspond to the Technician, General and Amateur Extra Class.

The VECs believe the Technician Plus Class should be abolished, but licensees would retain credit for the 5 words-per-minute Morse code examination. The Novice and Advanced Class would be phased out. Those classes could be indefinitely renewed or modified, but no new Novice and Advanced Class licenses would be granted. Five words-per-minute would be the highest Morse code speed required. A feature of the proposal is that no amateurs would lose privileges.

The VECs envision that the Technician Class license examination would contain 50 questions based on the combined Element 2 and 3(A) question pools. The privileges would be the same as the existing Technician Class. The General Class license would also contain 50 questions from the current Element 3(B) question pool with a 5 word-per-minute Morse code examination. The Extra Class license exam is proposed to be 100 questions which would be constructed from the current Element 4(A) and 4(B) pools. This new written examination would be known as Element 4. There would be no further Morse code examination.

A single five words-per-minute telegraphy examination meets the international treaty requirement and would eliminate the need to grant medical credit to disabled amateurs for the higher code speed examinations. The VECs said "We see no justification for 13 and 20 words per minute code testing .. or 12 WPM as suggested by the American Radio Relay League." The ARRL-VEC asked to be excluded from participation in the NCVEC comments since the League will be filing their own comments.

The fourteen VEC organizations act as the administrative liaison (or coordinator) between the Federal Communications Commission who grant Amateur Service licenses and the volunteer examiners who prepare and administer the required license examinations in the Amateur Service. Over the past fifteen years, more than one million applicants have been examined by the VEC System. A copy of the 35-page VEC filing may be found by searching the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System located on the World Wide Web at: <<http://www.fcc.gov/e-file/ecfs.html>> and entering the proceeding number: 98-143.

Fred Maia, W5YI

Here and There

Continued from page 5

lated problems.

At Taylor's request, the FCC has declared a voluntary communications emergency. Hams are being asked cooperate by relinquishing the use of 7.285 and 7.290 MHz during daylight hours and 3.873 and 3.935 MHz during the evening. The FCC has asked hams to clear the frequencies within 3 kHz on either side. The communications emergency remains in effect until it's rescinded by the FCC.

The ARRL Letter, 10/23/98

Notes

• If you hear the VLF operation from Holland (page 5), BSSS would be interested in knowing about it. Signal reports would be especially interesting. Email or snail to K9ZZ.

• I've got a Sears Roadtalker CB which has been converted to ten meters (thanks, K9WD), and have set a goal: DXCC on ten meters before Cycle 23 poops out. 5 watts average power and a very poor indoor antenna make it a real challenge. I have about 8 countries in the log, starting around October 1. Gee, now I need QSL cards and better send some SASEs to the 9th area bureau. It will be interesting to see how this works out, eh?

- K9ZZ

Wisconsin Amateur Internet Addresses

CALL	NAME	CITY	E-MAIL/URL
WB9WBN	Gerald Werner	Marshfield	wernerg@dgabby.mfldclin.edu
N9WBR	Jeff Ramlow	Amherst Junction	ramlow@wi-net.com
KB9WC	Jack Bremer	Markesan	jhbrem@fdldotnet.com
K9WD	Steve Schwoegler	Wisconsin Dells	srss@baraboo.com
K9WI	John Kaiser	Oshkosh	jkaiser@vbc.com
K9WIX	Clancy Meneau (Manitowoc Co. RACES)	Kellnersville	cmeneau@mail.tcbi.com
N9WUN	Charles Savard (Mancorad Club)	Manitowoc	cesavard@juno.com
N9WVD	Kirt Krause	Iola	n9wvd@geocities.com
			www.geocities.com/CapeCanaveral/Lab/8279
KA9WXN	Dave Schank	New Berlin	drs@mail.gmtcom.com
WS9X	Ronald Schaden (Mancorad Club)	Two Rivers	schaden@mail.tcbi.com
KF9XX	Guy A. Boucher	Marshfield	guyboucher@tzn.net
KA9YAW	Wes Michael	Green Bay	Ka9yaw@aol.com
W9YCV	Lester Peterson	Greenfield	LesW9YCV@aol.com
N9YJG	David C. Peterson	Chippewa Falls	dcpeters@discover-net.net
N9YJJ	Bruce Schaffer	Augusta	n9yjj@discover-net.net
N9YLS	Lee Housey	Sheboygan	lhousey@excel.net
W9YOA	Jack Klein	Beaver Dam	jklein@peoples.net
W9YQ	Dwight G. Bosselman	Oconto	dgbcms@netnet.net
WB9YSD	Steve Polishinski	Sun Prairie	wb9ysd@mailbag.com
WA9YVE	John Givens	Ixonia	wa9yve@globaldialog.com
WB9ZBE	Donna Menart	Howards Grove	dmenart@excel.net
N9ZET	Fred Diedrick	Edgerton	diedrick@jvl.net
KB5ZJU	Phillip N. Lodde	Sheboygan Falls	plodde@excel.net
N9ZLU	Jim Bailey	Neillsville	liljim@badger.tds.net
KA9ZPY	Arne Moxness	Racine	amoxness@execpc.com
K9ZUM	Mike Grady	Mountain	k9zum@juno.com
K0ZYP	Dave Gegner	Ladysmith	djgegner@ladysmith.net
K9ZZ	Jim Romelfanger	Baraboo	smokesigs@baraboo.com
			liljim@badger.tds.net
			Stevens Point
			www.coredcs.com/~maeiden/cwra.htm
			kg9mv@ecol.net
			www.danenet.wicp.org/~ares
			www.execpc.com/~kf9cs/ecn.htm
			kg9mv@ecol.net
			www.ecarc.org
			http://w9zl.ampr.org
			http://members.aol.com/staskc2ak/
			mmarclub@hotmail.com
			www.cybrzn.com/~grizzly/mmarclub/
			waltfriant@tzn.net
			svoros@execpc.com
			www.execpc.com/~svoros
			www.execpc.com/~n9lkh
			www.uwec.edu/Academic/Outreach/
			Morse2000/morse2000.html
			http://tbcnet.com/~davidc/nss/nss.html
			www.execpc.com/~theilman/Ozaukee.html
			w9udu@wi.net
			www2.wi.net/~hamradio/
			http://discover-net.net/~tazman/
			rcrainfo/rcrainfo.html
			nelles@dwave.net
			www.centuryinter.net/rarc/
			rcares@qsl.net
			www.qsl.net/rcares
			www.sal.wisc.edu/spaceplace
			wa9yve@globaldialog.com
			wa9pov@execpc.com
			www.execpc.com/~wa9pov/warac.html
			n9uur@execpc.com
			www.gmtcom.com/war
			RACES@DMA.STATE.WI.US
			www.thelorax.com/~sschulze
Black River Wireless Assn.			
Central Wisconsin Radio Amateurs			
Chippewa Valley ARES		Eau Claire	
Dane Co. ARES			
ECResources, Ltd.			
Eau Claire Amateur Radio Club			
Fox Cities Amateur Radio Club W9ZL		Appleton	
Madison Amateur Radio Clubs		Madison	
Marquette/Menominee ARC			
Marshfield Area ARS		Marshfield	
Milwaukee Area SKYWARN Assn.		Milwaukee	
Milwaukee Area Amateur Radio Society		Milwaukee	
Morse 2000 Project		Eau Claire	
Near Space Sciences			
Ozaukee Radio Club			
Racine Megacycle Club		Racine	
Red Cedar Repeater Association			
Rib Mountain Repeater Assn.		Wausau	
Riverland Amateur Radio Club		La Crosse	
Rock County ARES			
UW Space Place Amateur Radio Center		Madison	
Washington County ARC		www.nconnect.net/~wcarc	
Watertown Amateur Radio Club		Watertown	
West Allis Radio Amateur Club			
Wisconsin Association of Repeaters			
Wisconsin Emergency Management EOC		Madison	
Yellow Thunder ARC		Baraboo	

Updated 10/09/98 - Complete listing

Note that e-mail addresses and Web URLs may be case sensitive.

Send additions and changes to wa9pov@execpc.com.

This list is also available at www.execpc.com/~wa9pov/bsslist.html.

Solar Cycle 23 Activity Update

By Woody Minar,
K9EF

First, let me say that it's a great pleasure to be living, once again, in this great State of Wisconsin. My wife and I moved back to Dresser in October after being away for some 29 years. Meanwhile, we're enjoying the country life of our 33 acre hobby farm. There's no excuse for not erecting an antenna or two!

What's the status of Cycle 23? According to the *Space Environment Center User Notes* No. 23 dated October 1998, August 1998 represented month 23 of Cycle 23 which began in October 1996.

Thus far, activity associated with Cycle 23 has been increasing as expected. The activity has been unremarkable when compared at the same point in previous cycles, but it has been far from boring.

There have been three episodes of major solar-geophysical activity during Cycle 23. The first occurred in November 1997 (associated with a relatively rare ground-level energetic particle event), the second in April-May 1998, and the most recent in August 1998. Solar proton events were associated with all three episodes, while severe geomagnetic storms were associated with the latter two.

[The SEC's] long term prediction is the findings of the Solar Cycle 23 Project (see www.sec.noaa.gov, Research and Development): [which] expect[s] Cycle 23 to be a large solar cycle with a smoothed sunspot maximum of 160, forecast to occur during the early part of 2000. This peak is comparable to the last two cycles, but is not expected to exceed Cycle 19, the largest on record. Likewise, Cycle 23 geomagnetic activity is expected to be comparable with that of recent cycles, with the probability for severe geomagnetic storms greatest during an extended period lasting from 1999 through 2005.

73, Woody
K9EF

FCC SEQUENTIAL CALLSIGN UPDATE

The following is a list of FCC sequentially assigned call signs issued as of October 5, 1998. For more information about the sequential call sign system, see Fact Sheet PR5000 Number 206S or contact the FCC, 1270 Fairfield Rd, Gettysburg, PA 17325-7245; e-mail fccitd@fcc.gov.

District	Group A Extra	Group B Advanced	Group C Tech/Gen	Group D Novice
0	AB0HY	KI0OE	++	KC0EGA
1	AA1UC	KE1KJ	++	KB1DHK
2	AB2FS	KG2PD	++	KC2EDP
3	AA3RQ	KF3CD	++	KB3DBD
4	AF4MD	KU4VF	++	KG4AIC
5	AC5RN	KM5SX	++	KD5FHZ
6	AD6GX	KQ6YB	++	KF6TCN
7	AB7ZF	KK7PY	++	KD7CVI
8	AB8DJ	KI8GW	++	KC8LAI
9	AA9WO	KG9OQ	++	KB9TMJ
Mariana Is	NH0F	AH0BA	KH0HJ	WH0ABJ
Guam	++	AH2DH	KH2TW	WH2ANX
Hawaii	NH7P	AH6PO	KH7JZ	WH6DEY
American Samoa	AH8R	AH8AH	KH8DM	WH8ABF
Alaska	AL0M	AL7RH	KL0QE	WL7CUX
Virgin Islands	++	KP2CO	NP2KF	WP2AIJ
Puerto Rico	NP3Y	KP3BK	NP3YQ	WP4NOB

++ All call signs in this group have been issued in this district.

ARRL Bulletin 88, October 22, 1998

A few years ago



In this semi-historic photo are three well-known radio amateurs, one now a Silent Key. At left is Ross Hansch, W9BG (formerly W9RBI), who topped the DXCC countries list most of the time. Ross was also best man at my parents' wedding. He is the Silent Key. Center: Fred Laun, originally W9SZR, from Kiel, Wisconsin, now K3ZO, is one of the best known DXers in the world. He's operated from such locations as the Dominican Republic, Colombia, Argentina (for him, a good place to avoid), Thailand, Viet Nam, and others. At right is then-Section Communications Manager Roy Pedersen, K9FHI. This picture is not of the best quality, probably because I took it. It was taken at least 20 years ago at a club meeting in Madison.

K9ZZ photo

PARTICIPATING CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Wisconsin Valley Radio Association

Kim Kunze, N9SDL, Secretary

P.O. Box 363 • Wausau, WI 54402

Six Meter Repeater: 51.19 Input/52.89 Output

MEETING MINUTES October 6th, 1998

Meeting was called to order by N9SDI, members present were: N9NMH, N9IAB, N9TTA, N9MEA, KB9RXA, KB9DED, KB9FRB, KB9DZG, W9VHA, W9WW, KB9MCZ, KB9RXB, N9NRC, N9NQW, KB9RXB, KB9TJK, N9PHC, and N9SDL.

Minutes (Published in BSSS) approved: N9IAB and W9WW. Treasurer's report, approved: KB9DZG and N9NMH.

Upcoming events

- ✓ WVRA Club Auction, to be held November 3rd. Many excellent, quality items. Don't miss out!!
- ✓ We will be providing communications for the Halloween Patrol this year again in conjunction with the local REACT.

Old Business

Status of 6M repeater - (Mark, N9MEA) are currently looking at the duplexer. Also will install some filters for TVI. Discussion was held regarding the future of our antenna on the WAOV and WSAW TV tower. N9MEA indicated that

only paying customers will be allowed back on the tower. That does not include the WVRA. However, there is a very slight possibility that we may get a spot on the new tower.

New Business

Discussion took place regarding having a hamfest next August because there aren't any others in the entire state for that month. Need a chairperson to organize the event.

A motion was made by N9TTA to auction off the club's Drake TR4C transceiver for a starting minimum bid of \$200, 2nd by N9MEA, and approved by members present.

We will be collecting items again for the North Central Health Care Facility for delivery at Christmas time. Bring items to the next two club meetings.

Thanks to those who helped out at the Gear Grinder Bike race by providing communications: N9IAB, W9WW, N9LIA, KB9KSS, KB9DED, KB9FRB, KB9DZG, N9SDL, N9NQW, N9SDI, and KB9TJK.

Adjournment: KB9RXA and N9TTA.

*Respectfully submitted:
Kim Kunze, N9SDL*

Wisconsin Nets Association Ltd.

Art Evans, KA9KLZ, Secretary
213 N. Jefferson • Cuba City WI 53807-1558

WISCONSIN NETS

Net	WNA	Freq.	UTC	CST	Manager
BWN	Yes	3985	1300	0700	W9RCW
BEN	Yes	3985	1900	1300	KE9VU
WSBN	Yes	3985	0030	1830	WB9WHQ
WNN	Yes	3723	0100	1700	KB9OCZ
WSSN	Yes	3645	0130	1930	N9BDL
WIN/E	Yes	3662	0200	2000	WB9ICH
WIN/L	Yes	3662	0500	2300	W9UW
RCRA	No	01/61 (Mondays CDT)	0130 (Menomonee Area)	1930	KA9OMC
Gr. Bay	No	72/12	0345 (Green Bay Area)	2145	WB9NRK
ARES	No	4.65/5.25 (South East/South Central Wisconsin)	0300	2100	
RACES	No	3993.5	1500 (LSB Sunday)	0900	WA9OAY

WISCONSIN NTS TRAFFIC REPORT

September 1998

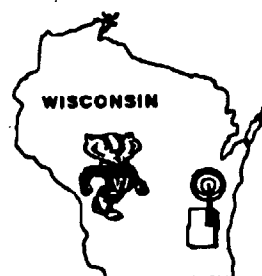
Traffic and check-ins were both down in September. Band conditions were extremely bad during the month, resulting in some nets either having very few stations, or not being held at all. During September 2938 stations passed 1956 messages. BWN/1625, BEN/45, WSBN/85, WNN/21, WSSN/23, WIN-E/107, and WIN-L/50.

Eleven stations had traffic totals in excess of 100, six of whom made Brass Pounders League. The stations are: W9RCW/923 (BPL), WB9JSW/763 (BPL),

WB9YPY/427, W9IHW/424 (BPL for over 100 deliveries), K9GU/357 (BPL for over 100 deliveries), W9YCV/125, K9PQ/112, N9CK/105, and K9JPS/102. Twenty nine stations submitted Station Activity Reports and thirteen stations submitted Public Service Honor Roll Reports.

I mail my reports to League Headquarters on the 7th of the month. That makes the deadline for reports the 6th. I can accept reports until I start printing them up for mailing. If you can catch me on the BWN on the morning of the 7th all would be well.

Hale Blakely, W9CBE, Asst. STM will also accept reports and forward them



Washington County Amateur Radio Club

Tom Waldschmidt, N9LZW,
Secretary
465 Elder Lane
Allenton, WI 53002-9799



Club Repeater: 146.73 MHz

<http://www.nconnect.net/~WCARC>

MEETING MINUTES September 10, 1998

The September 10, 1998 meeting of the Washington County ARC was called to order at 7:34 p.m. by President Paul (Rip) Ripple. There were nine members attending. They were Paul Ripple, W9SIZ; Tom Waldschmidt, N9LZW; Walter Gossfeld, N9LLS; Paul Thyren, N9KIK; Sherm, W9NGT; Gary Sutcliffe, W9XT; Jim Naczek, KB9LTW; David Parkinson, KA9RNU; and Don Woelz, K9GR.

The minutes of the August meeting were read by Secretary Tom, N9LZW. There was a motion by Sherm, W9NGT, seconded by Walt, N9LLS, to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

The treasurer's report was read by Treasurer David, KA9RNU. There was a motion by Sherm, W9NGT, seconded by Don, K9GR, to accept the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Gary, W9XT, reported that the post office didn't have the type of pre-stamped postcards that we were interested in. They suggested going to Office Depot.

There was some discussion about our dues structure and the inclusion of *Badger State Smoke Signals* with it.

There was some discussion regarding getting a quorum of members at the meetings to enable us to transact club business and to amend the Constitution and By-Laws. There were 9 members present at this meeting and 10 would be required to have a quorum.

There was some discussion about previously proposed amendments to the Constitution. Amendments need to be proposed at one meeting and voted upon at the next. The wording of the amendments was discussed. It was agreed that only one amendment would be proposed. It would reduce the number of members necessary to vote on an amendment from 3/4 of the membership to over 50% and require a 2/3 majority of those voting to approve the change.

It was agreed that there would be no proposal made to reduce the quorum necessary for conducting club business at this time. The quorum remains at 1/3 of the membership.

There was a discussion of items that

would addressed in the postcards to be mailed out. The proposed amendment would be included. Also on the agenda would be a vote on the inclusion of BSSS with our dues. Jim, KB9LTW, recommended that the newsletter explain that the club dues may change from approximately \$7.00 to \$10.00 to cover the cost of a newsletter.

Since we were unable to approve the expenditure of club funds for this newsletter the members attending this meeting did reach into their pockets to cover the costs. Rip, W9SIZ, would be getting the postcards. Gary, W9XT, would be doing the printing.

Rip announced that he has an email address. It is cw80@juno.com.

Jim, KB9LTW, thanked Rip for a 6 meter antenna he had given to him.

There was a motion by Sherm, W9NGT, seconded by Jim, KB9LTW, to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted:
Tom, N9LZW, Secretary
Washington County ARC*

PROGRAM

After the meeting, members enjoyed a presentation on our repeater system given by Don, K9GR. The Washington County ARC repeater operates on frequency pair 146.13/146.73. The repeater requires PL of 127.3 and transmits this frequency as well. The antenna is home-brewed and is on a 60 foot steel tower. The antenna is 1110 feet above sea level. The repeater is a 60 watt Micor using a Sinclair four-cavity duplexer. The IDer was designed and built by club member Gary, W9XT. The repeater puts out approximately 242 watts ERP.

CALENDAR

At a recent club breakfast, participants agreed to include Alma's in the rotation. Please note that with the above schedule, the first letters of the restaurant's names spell "jam". Now, if you know where the breakfast was last Saturday, or the Saturday before that, you can easily figure out where it will be next Saturday just by thinking of what you might put on your toast when you get there.

MEETING MINUTES October 8, 1998

The October 8, 1998 meeting of the Washington County ARC was called to order by President Paul (Rip) Ripple, W9SIZ. There were 12 members attending. They were Paul Ripple, W9SIZ; Larry Puza, WB9BVB; Brian Skrentny; N9LOO; Thomas Ihlenfeld, WD9GGA; Jim Naczek, KB9LTW; Bob Bieszk, KG9CW; Walt Gossfeld, N9LLS; David Parkinson, KA9RNU; Bill Fullhart, N9IBU; Gary Sutcliffe, W9XT; Sherman Carr, W9NGT; and Neal Degner, WA9WYI.

The minutes of the September meeting were read by Walt Gossfeld, N9LLS. There was a motion by Bill, N9IBU, to approve the minutes as read. Motion was seconded and carried.

Treasurer Dave Parkinson, KA9RNU. There was a motion to accept the financial report. Motion was seconded and carried.

The President began the meeting by inviting discussion on the present club dues. It was earlier proposed that we decrease the club dues from \$17.00 to \$10.00. Brian, N9LOO, said the dues should be of an amount that would encourage younger people to join. Rip said that the West Bend High Schools haven't had a club for the past three years because they can't get any interested students.

There was additional discussion about the value of *Badger State Smoke Signals* to our club members, the additional costs and time associated with generating our own newsletter, and ways of generating more interest in the club and Amateur Radio.

Washington County Amateur Radio Club

Continued from page 10

Brian, N9LOO, suggested that a committee be appointed. Larry, WB9BVB, discussed an Appleton area club that he is familiar with.

Rip, W9SIZ, entertained a motion to increase the club dues to \$10.00 a year. A motion was made and seconded. Motion carried.

Rip, W9SIZ, read an announcement from Tom, N9LZW, inviting club members to the wedding reception and dance for his daughter, Jessica, and Steven Jaeger.

Rip also made an announcement regarding the Milwaukee Repeater Club's Friendly Fest which will be held on Saturday, November 7th at the Waukesha Expo Center. There will also be a pancake breakfast this year.

Walt, N9LLS, announced that operators will be needed for the Hartford Christmas Parade. It will be held on Sunday, November 8th at 3:00 p.m. Operators will meet at 2:00 p.m. at the Chrysler Marine Plant. Some members volunteered immediately.

Rip entertained a motion to adjourn. Motion made by Sherm, W9NGT, and seconded by Bill, N9IBU. Motion carried. These minutes have been prepared from an audio tape of the meeting.

Tom, N9LZW

Following this meeting Gary, W9XT, gave a presentation on home brewing techniques.

Calendar

Thu 11/05/98 7:30 PM Net, 146.730
Sat 11/07/98 9:00 AM Breakfast, Jimmy's in Jackson
Thu 11/12/98 7:30 PM Net, 146.730
Sat 11/14/98 9:00 AM Breakfast, Alma's on Addison Road
Thu 11/19/98 7:30 PM Net, 146.730
Sat 11/21/98 9:00 AM Breakfast, Mine-shaft in Hartford
Thu 11/26/98 7:30 PM Net, 146.730
Sat 11/28/98 9:00 AM Breakfast, Jimmy's in Jackson



SHEBOYGAN County Amateur Radio Club

Steve Eisold, AA9SJ, Secretary
2220 N. 20th Street • Sheboygan WI 53083

2-Meter Repeater: 147.06 Output

The October meeting of the Sheboygan County Amateur Radio Club was called to order by Larry, WB9FXQ, at 7:04 p.m. local time. There were 13 members present at the meeting. The SCARC meets every second Tuesday of the month at the Red Cross building, 2032 Erie Avenue, Sheboygan. We again met at the K. W. Muth conference room. This should be the last time, as cleaning and repairs to the Red Cross basement will be completed by the December meeting date.

Steve, N9TRK, gave the treasurer's report. A balance of \$1480.85 was shown after BSSS renewal was paid. Also current club rosters are available from Steve.

To generate some friendly competition during the upcoming winter months, we will again be starting the Activity Awards certificates. To compete, just bring your log to the December meeting, the operator with the most logged QSOs will be awarded a certificate. For the month of November until the December meeting contacts may be made in all modes and on all bands. The only contacts that will not count are repeater contacts. Good Luck!!

Next VE test session will be November 18, but it will not be at the Red Cross building. Contact Art, K9XJ, either by e-mail or over the repeater to find out the actual site.

Wisconsin Nets Association Ltd.

Continued from page 10

to me. Hale covers most of the CW and SSB nets so there is someone on almost every net to take reports.

Reports can also be sent via packet or e-mail.

My packet address is:

KA9KLZ @ KC9KQ.WI.USA.NOAM

My e-mail address is:

aevans@mhtc.net

Thanks to all stations who participate in the Wisconsin nets. You are the nets and Wisconsin nets are the best. 73.

Submitted by:

Arthur A. Evans, KA9KLZ
Wisconsin Section Traffic Manager
October 6, 1998

Joe, N9REH, gave a quick update on his repeater system. Lighting damage during the August 6th storm caused his system to be down and he has been waiting for parts. Both machines are again fully operational.

Bob, KG9OM, has been in contact with the ARRL obtaining education material. Bob plans on beginning classes later this winter. Anyone knowing someone interested in Novice and Tech classes should contact Bob.

John Weeden, of the Red Cross, will be attending the December meeting. He will be there to explain future construction plans in the basement and what the club's alternatives will be. We are looking for several people to form a committee to explore our options. Some possible ideas now have no station at all, only a VHF station, or only a meeting and testing area. We really need some member input on this one.

A repeater committee was formed with four members. Their duties involve repeater operation and procedure. There was also discussion about club members demeanor at club functions.

A reminder that the November meeting will be held on the 147.06 repeater. Same time and date as the regular meeting.

Thanks again to Mike, K9SJ, for refreshments and K. W. Muth for the conference area. Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Just a reminder, if you use e-mail consider signing up to the Sheboygan Hams mailing list. Just submit your e-mail address to: julian@bongo.tele.com. E-mail sent to shebham@tele.com will be forwarded to all listed subscribers. Thanks again to N6ARE for providing the mail server for SCARC and ARES use.

NET SCHEDULES

8 p.m. Monday nights, SCARC Fun Net, 147.06 PL 107.2, +

10 Meter Net, Monday nights following the 2 meter net, 28.350 USB

Respectfully submitted:
Steve Eisold, AA9SJ

Got a ham radio story to tell? We have room for it! Share with our readers! Send it, with any photos, to K9ZZ, address on page 2.

The Racine Megacycle Club



Club Station W9UDU • Racine, WI

Mary Urban, N9ZWE, Secretary

c/o RMC • P.O. Box 3 • Racine, WI 54301-0003

e-mail: w9udu@wi.net

Web: <http://www2.wi.net/~hamradio/>

Voice mail: (414) 552-6RMC • ARRL Affiliated

Providing communications for American Red Cross and ARES

MEETING MINUTES September 14, 1998

The September 14, 1998 regular membership meeting of the Racine Megacycle Club opened at 7:32 p.m. at the American Red Cross Building. President Rees Roberts, K9UUT, and Secretary Mary Urban, N9ZWE, were present.

Secretary Mary, N9ZWE, read the minutes of the August 10, 1998 regular membership meeting. Ken, N9WHR, made a motion to accept the minutes as read, Ray, K9RI, seconded and the members approved by a voice vote.

Treasurer Bonnie, WB9ZKX, read the treasurer's report. Ken, N9WHR, made a motion to accept the report as read, Ray, K9RI, seconded and the members approved by a voice vote. (copy attached)

President Rees read the club mail. Racine Metal Fab made a donation of \$350 to the club for the 19th Annual Amateur Radio Banquet.

Marini Tool and Die Company donated \$50 for general club use.

The club received a QSL card from N4TL to confirm a Field Day contact on 6 meters.

Flyers were received for the Fox Cities hamfest in Kaukauna on November 8.

A thank you card was read from the Ken, N9WHR, Kuchar family. The Make A Wish Foundation sent a letter of acknowledgement for our donation on behalf of Jason Kuchar, KB9QVV.

COMMITTEES

Education Committee Chair Larry, WA9JMO, announced that the next no-code Tech class will start September 20. He is looking for students and instructors. Contact him through the RMC voice mail or e-mail.

Hamfest Committee Chair Rob, KF9ZT, announced that the first draft of the flyer is complete. South Hills has been reserved for July 25, 1999. Promotion with various publications and organizations is in progress.

President Rees appointed Ken, N9WHR, as chair of the Inventory Committee.

Larry, WA9JMO, has been appointed as chair of the Audit Committee. Per the by-laws, the audit committee will audit the treasurer's activities on a quarterly basis.

Volunteers are to contact Larry, WA9JMO.

The nominating committee for the November elections are Chair Ken, N9WHR, Rob, KF9ZT, and Kathy, N9ZWN. They have had 2 meetings to date. The November meeting is also when the club is to set the 1999 dues. Because the club has absorbed past increases in *Badger Smoke Signals* dues and another increase is coming up, we should consider a club dues increase to cover these costs. We also need to consider what the club wants to do in the future. The board is working on a budget for 1999. Further discussion will be held at the November meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

The club voice mail and e-mail is being utilized for promotion purposes.

Greg, KB9RMA, repeated his offer of a low cost InterNet address for the club.

The IRS has acknowledged our request to withdraw our application for the 501(c)3 status.

NEW BUSINESS

Next month's meeting activity will be a discussion of merging the RMC and Lakeshore Repeater. Rees has not appointed anyone to the committee to study this proposal. On behalf of the Banquet Committee, Bob, W9EH, made a motion that the club donate \$1.00 for each of its 83 members to the banquet, Larry WA9JMO seconded, and the members approved by a voice vote.

Further discussion was held on moving our Web site. Ken, N9WHR, made a motion that the board should make the decision in regards to changing our Web address, Ray, K9RI, seconded and the members approved by voice vote.

Larry discussed the 1999 bus trip to the Dayton Hamvention. Mary, N9ZWE, requested that whoever makes a motion do it using more precise wording. They and the person who seconds it should identify themselves.

Ken, N9WHR, made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:38 p.m., Ray, K9RI, seconded and the members approved by voice vote.

Dan, KA9OIL, gave a presentation on Foxhunting.

Mancorad Radio Club

Mary Langer, KB9GOY,
Secretary

P.O. Box 204 • Manitowoc, WI
54221-0204

2-Meter Repeater: 146.01 Input/146.61 Output



MANCORAD MINUTES October 14, 1998

The monthly meeting of ManCoRad was called to order by President, Roger Beyer, W9NPX at 7:35 p.m. in the lower level of the Associated Bank.

The minutes were approved as printed in the "Badger State Smoke Signals". The motion was made by Ken, K9HAG and seconded by Tom, KB9GRC.

The treasurer's report was read by Glenn, AA9MT and the motion was made by Lyle, WB9VTM, and seconded by Dick, N9QFY to accept as read.

OLD BUSINESS

We held our club family picnic on October 3 at Lincoln Park in Manitowoc. The threat of rain in the morning never

materialized and it turned out to be a beautiful fall day. Everyone that was there had a good time enjoying the pot luck and the T-hunt. There were prizes for the T-hunt and Gene, KB9KXF took 1st, Red, N9GHE took 2nd and Mary, KB9GOY took 3rd. Plans are to have another picnic next fall. We want to thank Fred, W6BSF for frying and organizing.

NEW BUSINESS

Club elections will be held at next months meeting. Please try and be present. Election committee is Red, N9GHE, Dick, N9QFY, and Bernie, N9XER. There are several positions open so please take part in club activities when you are called. Glenn, AA9MT, our treasurer, is resign-

Please turn to page 12

Mancorad Radio Club

Continued from page 11

ing and some of the duties he assumed will be broken down into other committees. Glenn has always done more than his share for the club and we appreciate it.

Dues are to be paid by November meeting. If not paid by December 12 you will not be getting "Badger State Smoke Signals". Dues are \$20.00 for a single and \$30.00 for a family membership. Checks can be made payable to ManCoRad ARC, P. O. Box 204, Manitowoc, WI. 54220.

Our annual Christmas party is set for Friday, December 11, 1998 at Cedar Ridge Restaurant. The cost will be around \$9.00 and will be announced at the next meeting. You are to bring a \$5.00 gift to exchange. Men bring a man's gift and ladies bring a ladies gift. Mark your calendars now. If you didn't come last year you missed a good time.

On November 3 there will be a disaster drill with the nuclear plant and help is needed. Red, N9GHE, will be coordinating that day. Please, if you are available, help out.

The sub event is going to be April 24 and 25, 1999. It is Memorial Submarine Radio Room weekend and our sub event will be coordinated with other sub events throughout the United States. At least 25 other subs will be on the air that weekend. Fred, W6BSF, has volunteered to coordinate it again.

Fred is also trying to get Field Day going again. There hasn't been much interest in the last few years. There will be more on this in the coming months. Field Day is always the last {full} weekend of June.

Not much is happening with our interest to move to the old Historical building. Red, N9GHE, is going to do some checking on this.

The date has been set and confirmed with Expo for our hamfest next year. Mark your calendars for May 8, 1999.

We need more volunteers to take the Sunday morning and Thursday evening nets. There have been a few times when there has been no net at all. It is not that difficult. There will be a format to follow which you can pick up at the next meeting. It is just a guideline to help you get going.

The meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m. with a motion made by Glenn, AA9MT, and seconded by Bill, K9DUX.

After the meeting we had a short program presented by Erv Busse, W9OMO. He brought a video he had made from some 8mm film he had taken in 1953 of the Silver Creek volunteer fire department, of which he was a member. It was very interesting seeing the equipment they used in those days. The fire truck did not have a cab. They had air conditioning all year round. Also, on that video was some footage of Field Day in 1953. There were a few hams on there that have passed away since. He also showed on the video of when his friend, ZS6KD, from Johannesburg, South Africa came to visit him at his house. Erv and Empty make contact every morning on schedule.

Submitted for approval:
Mary Langer, KB9GOY, Secretary

MEETING ATTENDANCE

AA9MT	Glenn
K9WIX	Clancy
W9NPX	Roger
AA9WI	Paul
KB9GOY	Mary
K9DUX	Bill
W6BSF	Fred
K9HAG	Ken
N9QFY	Dick
W9OMO	Erv
WS9X	Ron
N4WGK	Denise
KB9GRC	Tom
N9XER	Barney
N9IQZ	Janice
N9FVZ	Dan
WB9VTM	Lyle
N9VIA	Oran
N9GHE	Red

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At University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point

WATTS SNOO



WB9QFW 2-Meter Repeater 146.07-.67 and Club Station

249 Georgia Street North • Stevens Point WI 54481-1040

Meeting Minutes October 14, 1998

President Al Mallek, K9WVM, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. There was no program for this month's meeting.

A motion was made to accept the minutes from last month's meeting as printed in the *Badger State Smoke Signals*. No treasurer's report was available at the time as dues were still being collected.

Bob Baird, W9NN, reported that he talked with Joe Glinski, KG9B, and that Joe said the mill doesn't plan on cutting down on power any more and we can go ahead and put on the ID. The auto dial numbers will also be put back in as well. Bob also reported that the strange noise that he used to hear on the beginning of each transmission is no longer there. He said that once they put the power off at the mill he did not hear it again. All you hear now is the open port where the ID should be. He said that this could be done this weekend. The auto dial list will be updated as well. The auto patch on both repeaters will only be open to CWRA Members once they reprogram the repeaters.

Mike Pagel, K9UW, reported that 67 is running fine except that he heard what he thought was a pager tonight. He said that he found that there is a 2-meter filter available for 144 to 148 and it's over 50 dB of attenuation. He was wondering that if we were to experience problems again on either of our repeaters, we might want to take a look at this filter. The cost of the filter is under \$40.00 He said he thought the insertion loss was less than one-half dB. He said the current filter on .985 that was homemade knocked out the noise, but the insertion loss was higher.

Mary Eiden, KG9OK, will be sending Mike a list of currently paid members so that the changes can be made for the auto patch. Mike will send Mary a list of instructions for the auto patch that can be printed and distributed to club members.

Mary gave a very brief presentation of the database she has created for the club. It will have the capability of showing all the hams in the county or just the CWRA paid members. It will also contain other information such as whether people are a VE or members of the ARRL.

Kathy Mallon, KG9NX, reported that one of the things that she has in mind for activities for the club is to have workshops. Some of the more experienced amateurs could instruct some of the newcomers on things such as contesting, which would consist of someone getting up and holding an informal workshop where someone gets up and talks about contesting. Another one could be running and/or participating in a net. Kathy said she would like everyone to be comfortable in this area. Workshops are her number one priority. She would like to get more people involved and bring in those who are not currently club members. Kris Scheppe, KB9LYT, mentioned that the club station could be used for a session during the upcoming Sweepstakes contest. Kathy also mentioned that we have not participated with the Cub Scouts. She is going to prepare it for next year and she has contacted them and they are interested in having us come and be involved with them.

Mike Pagel, K9UW, stated that the club station would be an obvious tool for these exercises. He has been notified at work that we now have a two-month reprieve to get our items moved to the new room where our club station will be housed. We will be moving into the new room some time in December. Mike said that the loop antenna has to be replaced. He and Jim Tuszka, N9MEB, hope to take care of that in the next week to ten days.

Kathy said one of the things she would like to do is bring people to the club station. She would like to use the packet station, RTTY, and other types of amateur

communications. Mike Pagel said that for the shorter topics, we could do them as a program for the meeting. In instances where one would need a radio to help demonstrate, the club station could be utilized. Kathy said one of the topics that will be covered at a future meeting will be taking a regular car battery and transforming it into a power supply for a radio.

Jerry Fadness, W9GF, has been working on the club bylaws with Kathy, KG9NX. Jerry said there are still a couple of things that we need to redo. He said we have to add in the verbiage that needs to go in for tax exempt status we are pursuing. Mike, K9UW, said he checked with the Small Business Development Center on campus and they do not deal with that and gave Mike the name of a nonprofit organization in Madison that apparently performs legal services for other nonprofit organizations. Jerry and Kathy will be working on this and Jerry stated they might need to make a trip down to Madison about this. He would like to have this ready by the next meeting. Kathy Mallon, KG9NX, will pursue getting us sanction by the ARRL.

There was a discussion about where to hold the Swapfest next year. Jerry gave the price for us to rent the University Center for 1999. As of this date, we have no official Swapfest Chairperson. It was mentioned that we should possibly have a committee run it rather than putting the burden on just one person. It was stated that if we compared the pricing of the UW Center to the former site, if you added up all the expenditures and extra work that it would be more expensive to hold it at the former site or that type of site. If we hold it at the UW Center, you come in the morning of the Swapfest, set up, and then walk out when it's all over. Mike Pagel, K9UW, suggested that we reserve the University Center so that we at least have a place booked in case we do not come up with another site.

A motion was made by Jan Rydberg, KB9RUJ, and seconded by Kathy Mallon, KG9NX, to have the Swapfest on Sunday, June 6, 1999, and to have Mike Pagel reserve the University Center for us. We will continue to check out other viable options to see what else might be available, but by booking the UW Center, we at least have a place reserved in the event another site is not found.

Al Mallek, K9WVM, said he and Wayne Johnson, K9MIF, will take care of the banquet again this year. He asked the group if they were happy with the site we went to last year. Everyone said yes. People could go to the buffet or order off the menu.

The issue of a club newsletter was discussed. It was suggested that could utilize e-mail to send out club newsletters to those that have e-mail and then mail the rest of them through the regular mail. This will be discussed in more detail at the next meeting.

Mike Pagel, K9UW, reported that he got a call from Joe Glinski, KG9B, informing him that someone was getting on the 67 Repeater and dialing up 911 and waiting for the dispatcher at the Sheriff's Department to answer and then hanging up. This happened about two weeks ago. Joe told Mike that this went on about seven or eight times during the course of the evening that Joe listened to it. Mike said that this was the same problem that was reported occurring up in the Medford area earlier in the summer. Mike said that this happened here eight or ten years ago. Somebody just happened to check the input and there was a weak signal coming from the north. Apparently, this person was located in an area where they could hit both Medford and Stevens Point. Mike said all that he could suggested that we do is that if you hear it, you get a hold of the

Quarter Century Wireless Association Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter 162

Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO
5400 Six Mile Road
Radne, WI 53402



Our Greater Southeastern Amateur Radio Award Banquet, held the last Saturday in September has faded into history, but the pictorial and recognition memories will live on. The time, effort and talent our Banquet Chair, Kathy Madson, N9ZWN, devoted to the event became more and more evident as the evening's activities unfolded. From myself and all the attendees, thanks, Kathy. The meal was excellent, the digital entertainment provided by Ray Wolfe, K9RI, outstanding, and the door prizes were spectacular. Ken Knoff, N9NBC, was selected to receive the third annual Olin Fox, K9AKG, Recognition of Excellence Award, Bob Burgemeister, W9EH, was honored with our first Decade of Sufficient Achievement recognition, and Rob Madson, KF9ZT was the top candidate in the race for Ham of the Year. Congratulations to all those honored. It was a most enjoyable evening.

The Chapter's annual meeting and election in October, garnered four new two-year Directors: Fern Fisher, W9LCJ; Spencer Clope, W9LDH; Ed Konicek, W9NVK; and Bill Komistra, W9OVZ; to assist and work with Al Marini, W9CKQ; Ken Knoff, N9NBC; and Bob Jensen, W0WLN. The directors then met and Selected Spencer Clope, W9LDH as President, Bill Komistra, W9OVZ as Vice-President and Bob Jensen, W0WLN, as Secretary/Treasurer. Appointed committees

will be highlighted next month.

Our November business meeting will be held at PJ's Bar and Grill, 4659 75th, in Kenosha, on Monday, November 16, 1998 at 7:30 p.m. Diners may want to arrive at 7 p.m. to enjoy a half hour of uninterrupted eating enjoyment.

I attended the annual QCWA Convention on October 9th and 10th held (this year) in Palm Desert, California. Some of the interesting seminars that I and the other 196 attendees enjoyed, included "Antennas and other Interesting Stuff" by Lew McCoy, W1ICP; "Hams and the Search for Extra Terrestrial Intelligence" by Art Goddard, W6XD, and the ARRL Open Forum with Rod Stafford, W6ROD, ARRL President. About 80 of us were invited to Don Doughty's (W6EEN) QTH for a luncheon and tour of his ham shack. WOW! What a set-up. It is no wonder that Don, an avid Contester and his fellow station operators have consistently claimed top honors in this mode of our hobby. I do have pictures if anyone is interested. The convention wrapped up with a Saturday evening banquet with Dave Bell, W6AQ, as the evening's speaker. Dave related his adventure to Jordan to interview King Hussein Ibn Talal, JY1, for an ARRL video. A most interesting and entertaining tale.

73, Larry McCalvy,
WA9JMO

This year, why not give a gift subscription or two to Badger State Smoke Signals? Use the form on page 5, or list them on a sheet of paper. Send, with remittance, to Ken Ebner, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage, WI 53901. Questions? See the masthead on page 2; contact K9EN or K9ZZ by telephone, snail, or e-mail.

Continued on page 13

Central Wisconsin Radio Amateurs

Continued from page 12

trustee and have them shut the repeater. Mike said he wanted to designate one or two assistant trustees on the 67 Repeater who listen on a regular basis and give them the authority to close down the repeater in a situation such as this. Mike will designate who those people will be.

Congratulations to Jan Rydberg, KB9RUJ, who upgraded to General.

Jerry Fadness, W9GF, made a motion to adjourn. Mike Pagel, K9UW, seconded. Motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on

November 11, 1998 at the UWSP Science Building at 7:30 p.m.

Attendance

Al Mallek
Mary Eiden
Jerry Fadness
Mike Eiden
Jan Rydberg
Vern Abele
Dick Drew
Bob Baird
Mike Pagel
Kris Scheppe
Kathy Mallon
Allen Taylor
Bruce Walther
Art Wysocki
Joe Omernik

K9WVM
KG9OK
W9GF
WD9JID
KB9RUJ
W8UF
K9PJB
W9NN
K9UW
KB9LYT
KG9NX
KF9WR
W9QAH
N9BCA
N9CGV

□

Taylor County Area Amateur Radio Club

Tom Hrdina, N9GEN, President

2373 Willow Avenue • Medford WI 54451

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

The next regular meeting will be held on Thursday, November 5 at 7 p.m. in the Emergency Government meeting room located in the basement of the sheriff's

annex to the Taylor County Courthouse, corner of 2nd and Ogden Sts., Medford, WI.

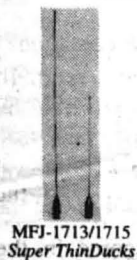
Talk-in on the 147.15 Medford repeater (+600 kHz) or 146.52 MHz simplex. □

MFJ handheld HEADQUARTERS

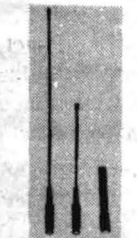
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MFJ-1713/1715
Super Thin Ducks



MFJ-1717/1716/
1718 Flex Ducks

MFJ's new SuperFlex™ ThinDuck handheld dual band antennas don't get in the way! They're super flexible, super thin and super lightweight! You can't break them -- they'll take a beating and bounce back in shape!

MFJ-1715, \$24.95. High gain 12 1/2 inch dual bander gives you super halfwave gain on 440 MHz. Efficient quarter wave radiator on 2-Meters. Super performer!

MFJ-1713, \$19.95. Just 5 1/2 inches short. This super performing midget dual bander is a full quarter wave on 440 MHz. Efficient loaded quarter wave on 2-Meters.

More high performance HT Antennas

MFJ-1710, \$9.95 Pocket 3/8 wave telescopic 2 Meters.

MFJ-1712, \$14.95 Dual band telescopic, 2M/440 MHz.

MFJ-1714, \$16.95 Long Ranger™, telescopic 2M, ended 1/2 wave. 40" extended, 10 1/2" collapsed. Super range!

MFJ-1716, \$16.95 Dual band 144/440 MHz Flexible Duck HT antenna. 7 1/2 in. long. 1/4 wave on 2M/440 MHz.

MFJ-1717, \$19.95 MFJ's best seller! High Gain dual band 144/440 MHz Flexible Duck. 15 3/4 inches gives you super halfwave gain on 440 MHz. It's an efficient 1/4 wave on 2-Meters. Super performer! Super rugged!

MFJ-1718, \$12.95 Super strong 2M 4 1/4" shorty duck.



MFJ-288 K/I
Deluxe Headset with
Boom Mic



MFJ-295Y
Yaesu Mini Mic

MFJ-288 K/I, \$24.95. MFJ's cool new headset with boom mic lets you QSO in private and frees your hands for more important duties. Crystal clear close-talk boom mic with foam wind shield minimizes noise pickup. Comfort pad earphone gives superb tonal quality -- stations come in loud and clear. Tiny PTT switch clips to shirt. 6 foot cord.

MFJ-295Y, \$15.95. Top-quality mini speaker mic matches Yaesu FT-10R/40R/50R and VX-1R HTs. Electret mic gives excellent audio. Speaker produces loud 83 dB of clear audio. Earphone jack, PTT switch, 8 position swivel clip, 3 1/2 foot cord.

More First-rate Speaker/Microphones

MFJ-284, \$15.95 Compact/most HTs. 1 1/4x2x3".

MFJ-285, \$15.95 Mini/most HTs. Tiny 2x1 1/4x1 1/4".

MFJ-286, \$15.95 Compact/Kenwood. 1 1/4x2x3".

MFJ-287, \$15.95 Mini/Kenwood. Tiny 2x1 1/4x1 1/4".

MFJ-292 Y/K/I, \$17.95 30 gram Featherweight™ ear bud earphone with tiny PTT lapel mic lets you carry on discrete QSOs hands free! Superb transmit/receive audio. Fits most HTs. 4 foot cord.

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Adjustable foam padded jaws lock your expensive HT in place and secures it for the bumpiest rides. Protects any HT or cell phone from damage. Quick release button lets you quickly take your HT with you. Adjustable FlexNeck™ lets you position your HT conveniently. Incredibly powerful suction cups firmly mount the Jaws Gripmatic™ HT holder to your car window. Suction release tabs quickly release from window.



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\$14.95
Add s/h

MFJ MaxStrength™ Hi-Flux Magnet Mounts

Get maximum pull strength with these MFJ super strong magnet mounts. Stays put -- won't fly off your car at high speed. Euro-style has black poly finish with heavy duty scratch-resistance rubber guard. 17 feet of tough RG-58 coax with PL-259 connector. Select MNO or SO-239 mount. Low profile 3.5 inch base, 1 1/2 pounds:

MFJ-333BM (MNO)/MFJ-333BS (SO-239), \$14.95 each. Super Powerful 5 inch base, 2 1/2 pounds: **MFJ-335BM (MNO)/MFJ-335BS (SO-239), \$19.95** each.



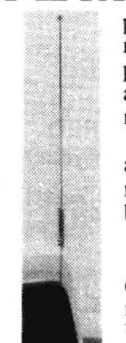
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\$14.95
Add s/h

MFJ Mobile Antennas for 2 Meters and 440 MHz

MFJ-1724B, \$14.95. World's best selling dual band 2 Meter/440 MHz magnet mount mobile antenna! Short 19 inch stainless steel radiator lets you park in your garage. Powerful 3 1/2 inch magnet, 15 foot coax with PL-259 connector. Scratch-resistance pad. Free BNC handheld adapter. Low SWR. Handles 300 Watts PEP.

MFJ-1729, \$29.95. Super*Gain™ dual band 2 Meter/440 MHz magnet mount mobile antenna is ham radio's most powerful. Outstanding gain on 440 MHz/2 Meters. MFJ's 27 1/2 inch stainless steel SlimLine Radiator™ cuts wind vibration for less SWR flutter -- gives longer range, better readability. 12 feet coax with PL-259. Low SWR lets your rig deliver full power safely. Handles 300 Watts PEP. Free BNC handheld adapter.

MFJ-1728B, \$24.95. 5/8 Wave 2 1/2 Meter Magnet Mount antenna. On 2 Meters, it gives you the maximum



MFJ-1734 Dual
Band Glass Mount

possible theoretical gain of any single element antenna -- no matter how much others cost. On 6 Meters, it's a high performance full 1/4 wave antenna. Free BNC handheld adapter, low SWR, handles 300 Watts PEP, heavy duty magnet mount, 12 feet coax, 48 inch stainless steel radiator.

MFJ-1721, \$14.95. 2 Meter UltraLite™ weighs 2 ounces and has tiny but powerful 1 1/8 inch diameter mobile magnet mount. Thin 20 inch stainless steel whip bends to fit smallest briefcase. 9 feet of thin RG-174RU mini coax with BNC.

MFJ-1722, \$18.95. 144/440 MHz dual band UltraLite™.

MFJ-1734, \$39.95. Glass Mount dual band antenna is easy-to-install on glass windows. 26 inch stainless steel removable radiator adjusts for angled surfaces. Handles 50 Watts. Low SWR. Has 12 feet coax, cleaning pad, mounting hardware, SWR tuning tool. Free BNC handheld adapter.

MFJ-1738, \$29.95. Long range 2 Meter Glass Mount.

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MFJ-916 lets you use a dual band antenna with separate transceivers or separate antennas with a dual band transceiver. One SO-239, two PL-259 connectors. 50 Ohms. Handles 200 Watts PEP combined.



MFJ-916
\$29.95
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\$14.95
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Single glance gives accurate in/outdoor temperatures (F or C) and 24/12 hour time on huge 1 1/2x2 1/2 inch backlit LCD. Great for QSOs! Perfect for mobilizing! Gives Min/Max temperatures. Batteries included.



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Add s/h

Universal Quick/Trickle Battery Chargers for Ni-Cd/Ni-MH

MFJ RapidBattery™ Charger charges Ni-Cd and

MFJ-641K/Y/I Ni-MH batteries for HTs. Automatically switches from quick charge to trickle charge. Microprocessor prevents overcharging and prolongs battery life. Small 3 1/2x5 1/2x3 in.

MFJ's universal interchangeable charging slots make

charging different HT batteries fast, simple and safe. MFJ eliminates installing complex battery clips and possible wrong voltage settings that could destroy your expensive battery!

MFJ-641 RapidBattery™ Charger includes one charging slot. Extra charging slots available for other HTs, \$12.95 each. Have HT make and battery type ready when ordering.

□

Red Cedar Repeater Association, Inc.



Steve Hart, KA9OMC, Secretary



E616 810th Avenue

Knapp, WI 54749

2-Meter Repeater: 146.01 Input/146.61 Output

Greetings, RCRA sponsors and guests.

Please make welcome new sponsor KB9PDU, Derek Strelow, at Menomonie. Derek works with USSB Satellite and is close to a possible move up in his work to engineer.

Our thanks to K9IAG. Ken Drake at Menomonie, for donating a couple boxes of items for the upcoming auction. Among the items is some plastic gas line for burying cable. Thanks, Ken.

N9KMY, Dave Kaun, has provided many of the hams at Saturday coffee with some plans for direction-finding antennas. We will most likely get some use of these, as the rate of problems occurring in the area is on the increase.

N9FVA, Chuck Thomas, and N9PPE, Jeff Cole, recently helped out at the Eau Claire Airport when the Ford Tri-Motor airplane was on tour. Jeff took a ride in the plane and WB9YMB, Jim Hillborn, reports that in his youth in Iowa, he was able to ride in a Trimotor for fifty cents.

KB9TAC, Andy Wagner, reports that he and the Menomonie High School Band took third place out of ten in state competition with a score of 82.5. This was an improved score over last year, and the drum major was rated the best. Andy also needs an IBM compatible monitor. Call (715) 235-6271.

N9RVV, Marv at Island Lake, indicates ten meters is opening and that he has been working Europe.

KA9PVY, Ken Reetz, reports that he used the Rand McNally computer program to plan his trip and stay at Rochester for the Lutheran Conference this past summer.

AA9UK, Rod Steele at Chippewa Falls, has been helping with the Thursday night code practice on the repeater at 7:30 p.m. Rod says that he will be trying his hand at bow hunting this year.

KF9CU, Arlene Kraft, has been busy with gardening this summer at Cedar Falls and was able to enjoy a late harvest of second crop radishes. Arlene reads ARRL bulletins on our Monday Nite Net at 6:30 p.m. on the repeater. A more significant recent bulletin was #85, informing the group of frequencies to avoid operation on as the FCC had set them aside for flood and storm traffic in southern Texas. Arlene indicates that son Steven, KE9RW, will be moving to Bloomington, Minnesota from Eden Prairie and taking new employment.

The next social hour is scheduled for November 24 at 1414 9th Street at the Peppermill Restaurant in the L-Mart shopping center. Meeting time is 7:30 p.m. Bring a friend.

It is time to again renew *Badger State Smoke Signals* subscriptions through RCRA. In order that you will not miss the January issue, I will need to receive your payment and repeater pledge no later than November 10. Repeater support for 1999 is \$15/individual pledge or \$20 for multiple amateurs in one household. If you would like a subscription to BSSS through RCRA, include an extra \$10. With all the holiday things ahead, we ask that you not delay and send your pledge and subscription, new or renewal, to the RCRA today. Thank you.

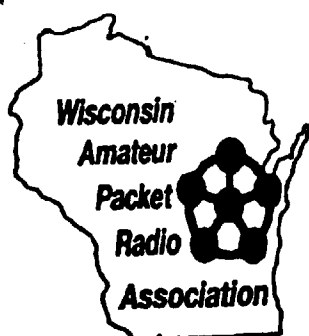
Steve Hart, KA9OMC
RCRA Secretary/Treasurer

Attention Advertisers

Most of the card ads on our back page have been renewed for 1999. However, a few advertisers have failed to respond to two notices of renewals due. Those spaces are subject to sale to other advertisers after November 1, as was stated in the second reminder. We ask that, if you wish to continue your ad, please forward your check and any changes you wish in your ad to K9ZZ without any further delay. Also, if you do not wish to continue your ad, please advise K9ZZ now so we can begin selling the spaces which may be open. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated. Thank you.

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THE WISCONSIN PACKETEER

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 Bob Gedemer, KA9JAC
 609 Wilson Street • Neenah, WI 54956

Andy Nemec, KB9ALN, Editor • 720 N. Broadway (Upper West) • Green Bay, WI 54303

WAPR News - November, 1998

November - and Winter - are surely upon us. While some folks look forward to hunting and other outdoor activities, a lot of us look forward to catching up on the packet world during the cold months. Although I do still spend a certain amount of time with the packet system in the summer, it is mostly maintaining it. I suspect others are in the same situation. Winter is the time to use it, it seems. And then we get to enjoy the fruits of our summer labors.

In Green Bay, we just went through some of our "summer" maintenance on our node stack. The old Diamond X-Series Dual-Band antenna once again filled with water, and has been replaced. Al, KB9BYQ donated a new Diamond repeater-model dual-band antenna for the stack and so far it seems to be working quite well.

Those of you who have used Diamond antennas in the past probably have found them to be fine performers - for a while. It seems that they are prone to leaking, probably due to fine cracks in the Fiberglass and lack of a drainage system. Well, these problems have been attended to in the latest version of the repeater antenna. Not only does it have thicker Fiberglass that is more resistant to this cracking, the newest rework does have venting holes in the bottom of the antenna. This should eliminate some fairly serious problems found in what is a fairly good performing antenna.

As time goes on, we will keep a close eye on the antenna and let everyone know if we have problems. The dual-band antenna sure makes it handy for nodestack use where VHF and UHF antennas are needed. It is nice to only buy one run of feedline - especially if you are dealing with a long run of expensive feedline, like Heliax. This spring we will, in all probability look at the antenna in Spring and see how it is holding up.

Now on to some other news. Do you like comparing notes and chatting with other packet operators? You will have just that opportunity on November 7th when the WAPR meeting comes to Royalton (near New London). Aaron, KB9QWC has arranged for us to meet at the Airport on that day for our quarterly WAPR meeting. If you have never been to a WAPR meeting, you owe it to yourself to check one out. It is a low-key affair where we quickly take care of the routine organizational stuff and then go on to network talk. After we get all of the "official" things out of the way, we generally sit down to lunch and continue catching up. It is a nice outing that is pleasant and fun. I do hope to see you there. The meeting gets under way at 10:00 A.M.

The Airport is located at N4176 Faskell Road northwest of New London. One easy way to get directions is to use the World Wide Web. Point your browser to <http://maps.yahoo.com/maps/maps.py>. When it asks you for a destination address, enter N4176 Faskell Road, New London, WI. 54961. Enter your home address next, and it will give you the directions. There is also a message on the BBS network that gives detailed instructions on how to get there. Thanks to Aaron for his efforts in getting the meeting site together.

Last month I talked of finding out more concerning the happenings in the western part of the state. In light of the approaching WAPR meeting, I will wait until then to get the latest news. This will appear in next month's news report.

As always, space is available for your news. My various addresses are listed at the top of the page.

Until next month, 73 from Andy.

Troubleshooting Your Packet Station Through Monitoring

Part Two by Andy Nemec, KB9ALN

In part one of this mini-series, we started a discussion of troubleshooting problem packet stations by careful observation of the information seen while in the "monitor mode". This is, of course, a more complete monitoring mode that not only shows the text, but also the control and acknowledgment packets sent from TNC-to-TNC. This visual presentation of the "nuts and bolts" of a packet connection is there for you to use in your troubleshooting. Part one explained the information seen on the screen, this part will show you how to use it.

Common Problems.

There are generally two problems seen with packet stations - either connections can't be made, or data transfer is slow. All of the described troubleshooting assumes that you are making single hop connections from one station to another. Introducing a node or a digipeater into the mix creates too many variables - so do not use these in this type of troubleshooting.

The first thing that you need to know in troubleshooting the common problems is if it happens with only one station, or all stations. This will definitely affect the troubleshooting process. Each problem we look at will be approached in both ways.

It is recommended that you can also see the lights on the TNC, and you set the monitor function so that you can see activity on the channel while connected. Consult your TNC manual for instructions on this command. It is also helpful to have a radio capable of hearing on the packet frequency, listening can give you other clues as to what is wrong.

One more suggestion - do all of your testing during off-peak hours. Not only will this be welcome by your fellow packet operators, but it also makes your troubleshooting easier. Less congestion means that you will have an easier time keeping track of things.

#1 - Can't Connect (all stations).

This is a problem that can be caused by either the transmitter or the receiver system.

The first thing to do is to try and initiate a connection while looking at the PTT light on the TNC. After you see your packet on the monitor screen, look for the PTT light to light. If it does not, then check for a defective radio, broken wire in the TNC-to-Radio cable, bad connection or cold solder joint at cable connectors, defective power supply, or a defective TNC.

If the PTT light does light, look for the DCD light next. This shows the other station responding to your connect request. Now look at your monitor screen. If you do not see the DCD light (and do not see monitor activity), check for improper transmitter audio level on your radio, improper volume control setting, improper squelch control setting on your radio, a radio off frequency, sub-audible tone encoder turned on (should be off), a broken wire in the TNC-to-Radio cable, or a bad connection or cold solder joint at cable connectors.

If you do see the DCD light and see no monitor activity

on your screen, look for a improper volume control setting, improper squelch control setting on your radio, off frequency radio, sub-audible tone decoder turned on (should be off) or a defective power supply (hum or noise, or improper voltage).

If you have the PTT and DCD lights responding as normal, then look at the monitor screen. Do you have responding packet that says DM ? There are a couple of explanations, make sure that the protocol type on your TNC is not set to "AX 25 V1". Use "AX 25 V2". If you have a AEA TNC and have "Lite" turned on, turn it off.

If you have the same situation as above but get a FRMR packet in response, look for distorted transmit audio from your radio, or someone else with your call-sign on their TNC. They both try to answer, and the packet is rejected. Don't forget a possible defective power supply.

#2 - Can't Connect (one station)

This is one area where we can safely assume that your DCD and PTT lights are functioning as normal, and you can connect to other stations. It also assumes that the target station can connect to others. Look at the monitor screen to see what kind of packet is seen in response to your connect request. If nothing is seen on the screen, check to see that you do not have the target station on your "bud" list, or have it excluded from monitoring. If you still do not see any response, one can safely presume that there is a radio path problem, or an interference problem.

If you see a DM packet from the target station, then check to see that the target station is setup for multiple connects. Also check to see if the target station's TNC buffer is full. If a target station returns a FRMR, then there is probably some audio distortion at one end or the other. Multipath distortion is one possibility, as well as one station being off frequency, or distorted transmit or receive audio. This is a fairly rare circumstance however.

#3 - Slow data transfer (all stations or one station)

The troubleshooting of this problem is pretty much the same for both circumstances. The reason for slow data transfer is generally "too many retries", but that does not tell us much. Look at your monitor screen and you will see the back-and-forth of acknowledgment packets, and the fact that they are numbered helps us keep easier track of them.

The retries are indicated by repeated sending of the same numbered RR packet. This is best observed by uploading and downloading a file. Obviously, you may need

WISCONSIN AMATEUR PACKET RADIO MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

PLEASE PRINT

NAME: _____ CALL: _____ HOME PHONE (____) _____

ADDRESS: _____ CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

HOME BBS: _____ FREQ: _____ (Listing your home BBS is important)

Your HOME BBS should be a full service BBS, not your TNC's mailbox.

MY PACKET STATION OPERATES: _____ DAY _____ NIGHT _____ 24HRS

I OPERATE A: _____ DIGIPEATER WITH ALIAS OF: _____

_____ FULL SERVICE BBS

PRIMARY PACKETINTEREST/EXPERTISE IS: _____

_____ YES I want to receive Badger State Smoke Signals and I understand that part of my dues goes to pay this subscription, cost \$20.00

_____ NO I do not wish to receive Badger State Smoke Signals as a part of my WAPR membership. Cost \$15.00

COMPLETE and return this form with your check or money order - \$15.00 membership only or \$20.00 membership and Badger State Smoke Signals made payable to W A P R (NOT payable to Bob Gedemer) to

Bob Gedemer KA9JAC/WAPR
 609 Wilson St.
 Neenah WI 54956-3129

the help and cooperation of the person operating the problem station. Noticing if the problem happens on uploading, downloading, or both will help you figure things out.

If it happens when you are uploading (sending) files, then check for poor signal strength, poor transmit audio level, or a transmit frequency error. It can also be caused by poor volume or squelch settings at the target station.

If it happens when you are downloading (receiving) files, then you may want to look at your receiver squelch and volume settings, and your receive frequency. The target station may have poor transmit audio, or a transmitter that is off frequency. You may also be experiencing some kind of interference.

If it happens on both uploading and downloading, suspect a frequency error in the radio's frequency synthesizer, a local interference, or your TNC may be incorrectly set. Check your TXDelay, it should be set at about 35-40 (350-400 milliseconds) on 1200 bps radios. 9600 bps systems vary widely because some radios need a longer "settling time" when they return to the receive mode from transmit. If this is your situation, try extending your TXD. Don't forget to check your other TNC parameters, too.

Intermittent problems.

Intermittent problems create special opportunities for insanity, but you can speed up the troubleshooting of an intermittent problem with the right procedures. I suggest taking notes and careful observations when you try and nail a problem down. When you see the problem happening, take note of the following:

1) The room temperature, if it varies. 2) The outside temperature and weather conditions. 3) The time of day. 4) Any unusual household electrical activities.

If the problem seems to be temperature related, narrow it down to whether it is a cool-related problem, or a heat-related problem. You may have to turn off each piece of your station equipment (don't overlook the power supply) for a period of time to narrow it down.

If the problem seems to be related to outside weather conditions, consider that you may have electrical noise from power lines or some exposed piece of electrical equipment (neon sign, etc). If this seems to be the case, listen on your packet frequency with another radio. If you have access to a multi-mode radio, try listening on AM or SSB. Electrical noises are easier to catch with these modes than with FM. You may also hear other odd noises that you may not be hearing on FM, but may corrupt packets nonetheless.

Time of day and unusual electrical activity also point to interference. Again, you may wish to listen to the frequency in question to help you determine if this is the case.

Unusual cases - Baypac/Baycom.

Baycom and Baypack modems allow one to buy an inexpensive modem and use a computer to do most of the work of the TNC. A very common problem with this setup is the inability of to copy long packets, or copy all of the packets while the frequency is very busy. It gives the impression of "skipping beats", and that is just about what is happening. Uncopied packets are not displayed on the monitor screen at all, in this case.

Because the computer also does most of the work of a TNC, it becomes very busy. It not only displays activity on the screen, it maintains every bit of your packet connection. As a result, the computer used with a Baypac modem and Baycom Software must be at least an 80286, even faster is better. The speed is needed so that the computer can get every one of it's jobs done so that all of the packets can be processed in time. While 8088 laptops can be found for cheap, it is not the computer to use as a portable packet station with a Baypac modem.

Other Problems

Another unusual case is garbled characters on the monitor screen. These will probably also appear while you are conversing. This is not a radio system problem, it is related to the way the computer and TNC are communicating through the serial port. This generally indicates a problem with the TNC. The problem has been noticed frequently in Kantronics TNCs, and could happen in any TNC. It can also be a problem with the computer's serial port. One can test the TNC by hooking it up to another computer. If the TNC is at fault, the problem will still be there. If not, then the computer serial port is suspect.

And that is all for this time around. Until next time, 73 from Andy.

THE TEST POINT

(continued from page 3)



Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club

WB9FDZ (Original Club Call)
K9ODK (Robert L. Prine Memorial Call)

Raymond J. Matlosz, N9MLZ, Secretary
450 West 2nd Street • Reedsburg, WI 53959



The October 6, 1998 meeting of the Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club, Inc. was called at 7:40 p.m. by club president Steve Schulze, N9UDO.

Minutes for the August 4, 1998 and September 1, 1998 meeting were approved. Treasurers report was approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Sonny Eisenberg, WA9KXQ and Derrek Wagner became new members during the club's Swapfest in August. Raymond Matlosz, N9MLZ upgraded to Advance.

OLD BUSINESS: Bill Klinkner, N9KXX gave a report on the Relay for Life and the financial aspects of the swapfest, which were both held the same weekend.

NEW BUSINESS: Elections were held. A motion was made, seconded, and the current officers were reelected: President - Steve Schulze, N9UDO; Vice-President - Bill Hommel, KA9QFJ; Secretary - Raymond Matlosz, N9MLZ; Treasurer - Bill Klinkner, N9KXX; member-at-large - Thomas Harrison, N9PQJ.

October 3, November 7, and December 5, 1998. The location is a little more handicap accessible, room S110 in the back of the science building by the handicap parking interance. WCTC is on Hwy JJ off Hwy 16 from the East I-94 and Hwy T from West I-94 just north of GE Medical Systems. Tests start at 9:00 AM and registration ends at 10:00 AM. Contact: Al Johnson, AA7CS

HUDSON, WI (ARRL/VEC)

05-Dec-1998, Sponsor: St. Croix Valley AR Testing Col. Time: Call for time and walk-in info, Contact: Gregory Miller (715)386-9857

Location: St. Croix County Emergency, Government Center by jail, Carmichael Rd. lower level, Hudson, WI 54016. (Information trn ARRL Web site)

CEDARBURG, WI - ORC HAMFEST
EAU CLAIRE, WI - ECARC HAMFEST
GREEN BAY, WI - ARES HAMFEST
HAYWARD, WI - HAYWARD HAMFEST
KAUKAUNA, WI - SWAPFEST
MANITOWOC, WI, LAKESHORE HAMFEST
OAK CREEK, WI - SMARC HAMFEST
RACINE, WI - RACINE HAMFEST
RHINELANDER, WI - NWARC SWAPFEST
ROCKFORD, IL - RARC HAMFEST
ROTHSCHILD, WI - WVRA HAMFEST
SOUTH MILWAUKEE, WI - SMARC HAMFEST

STEVENS POINT, WI - CWRA SWAPFEST
WAUKESHA, WI - KMRA SWAPFEST
WAUKESHA, WI - MIDWINTER SWAPFEST
DUBUQUE, IA - HAMFEST

See the Swapfest column for additional information and contact persons.

DUBUQUE, IA - ARRL/VEC

Dubuque Hamfest. Contact: Carl Clark, N0KAX, 2145 Delicia Drive, Dubuque, IA 52001. (319) 557-9149.

ROCKFORD/LOVES PARK, IL

Third Saturday of every month. Northern Illinois Volunteer Examiners (W5YI VEC). Held at North Suburban District Library, 6340 North Second St. (Hwy. 251), Loves Park, IL. 9:00 a.m. to noon. No new applicants after 11:00 a.m. Walkins welcome. Contact: Rusty Cordell, WB9QYV, 1823 Hulin n St., Rockford, IL 61102-2619. (815) 968-0080. e-mail WB9QYV@aol.com

MINNESOTA TEST INFORMATION

From "The Ground Wave", Saint Paul Radio Club.

Saint Paul Radio Club (SPRC)

Contact: Ed VanCleave, W0VC, (612) 636-0108
Test Site: St. Paul Technical College
235 Marshall Ave.
St Paul, MN

TESTING: First Saturday of the month, 8:30 a.m.

Anoka Amateur Radio Club (AARC)

Contact: Craig Johnson, AA0ZZ (612) 483-3143
Test Site: Blaine City Hall
9150 Central Ave NE
Blaine, MN

TESTING: Second Saturday of the month, 9:00 a.m.

Bloomington Office of Emergency Management

(Bloomington Amateur Radio Club (BARC))
Contact: Dan Royer, KE0OR (612) 888-9756
Test Site: Fire Station No. 1

REMINDER: Holiday Party Friday December 18, 1998 at the Hitching Post in Portage. Club meetings are on the first Tuesday of the month.

Meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday November 3, 1998 at 7:30 p.m. room 14, Baraboo Civic Center.

The following members were present:

George Gabay N9QQR New Lisbon
Raymond Matlosz N9MLZ Reedsburg
Steve Schwoegler K9WD Wisconsin Dells
Leonard Wagner N9XJG Baraboo
Bill Hommel KA9QFJ Baraboo
Bill Klinkner N9KXX Sauk City
Anne Klinkner N9PQL Sauk City
Patrick Klinkner Sauk City
Steve Schulze N9UDO Baraboo
Thomas Harrison N9PQJ Reedsburg

94th St. & Nicollet Avenue S.
Bloomington, MN

TESTING: Fourth Saturday of the month, 9:00 a.m.

Valley Amateur Radio Club (VARC)

Contact: Bill Martin, A10D (612) 432-0438
Test Site: Hayes Community Center
14601 Hayes Road
Apple Valley, MN

TESTING: Second Thursday of the month 7:00 p.m.

W5YI Group

Contact: Dave Ranney, N0AXL (612) 542-2553
Test Site: Eden Prairie Library
479 Eden Prairie Drive
Eden Prairie, MN

TESTING: Third Tuesday of the month 6:30 p.m.

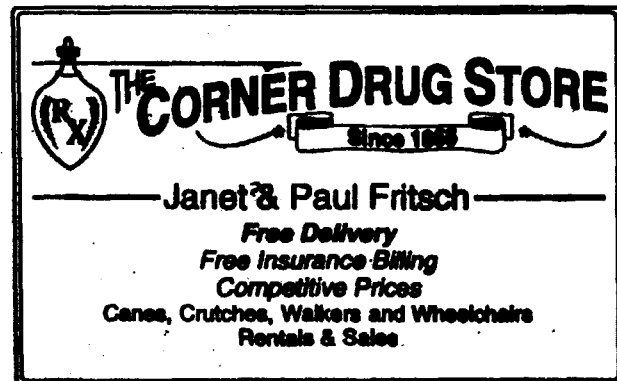
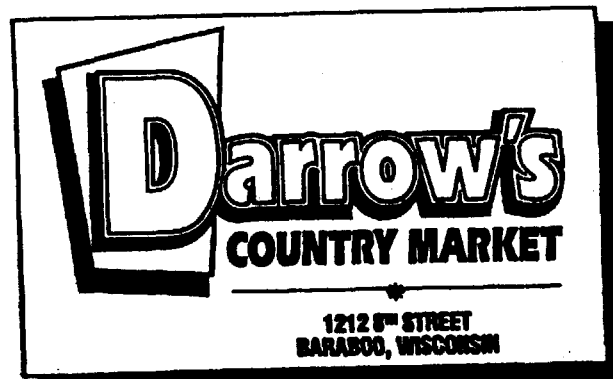
SE Metro Area Radio Club (SEMARC)

Contact: Dave Harrell, K0BTE (612) 459-8678
Test Site: Cottage Grove fire Station
8641 80th ST., S
Cottage Grove, MN

TESTING: Third Saturday of the month, 9:00 a.m.

The times and places listed above are the usual time and place for each VE team. Occasionally, sessions are canceled or changed. It is a good idea to call ahead to confirm the test time and place.

This section of Badger State Smoke Signals is available to publicize your Volunteer Examiner Amateur Radio license examination schedules. Please send us your schedules of dates, times, and locations that you will be conducting examinations and we will include the information here. Be sure to include contact address and any other necessary requirements. Information should be sent to K9EN at the address shown on page 2.



SHOPPER'S GUIDE

SWAPFESTS



1998 WINNERS
Jessica L. Winzenried, KB9AMX,
Stevens Point
Kurtis M. Kaun, N9PPF,
Menomonee
Michael R. Placek, KB9SCH,
Oak Creek

27TH ANNUAL MIDWINTER SWAPFEST

WAUKESHA EXPOSITION
CENTER

WAUKESHA, WISCONSIN

**SATURDAY
JANUARY 9, 1999**

Both sponsored by:
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HAM IT UP EVERY SPRING!

MADISON SWAPFEST

SUNDAY, APRIL 11, 1999

Middleton Conference Center
(Same place as 1998 with new name)

1313 John Q. Hammons Drive

Just west of intersection of Beltline and Greenway Blvd.

Sponsored by MARA/W9HSY

P. O. Box 8890

Madison, WI 53708-8890

Swapfest Information Line: (608) 245-8890

SOUTH MILWAUKEE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

SWAPFEST 99

July 10, 1999

(Held every July)

American Legion Park

Shepard Avenue • Oak Creek, WI

(414) 762-3235

Extension: Ask for Verne

P. O. Box 102

South Milwaukee, WI 53172

FOX CITIES HAMFEST

Sunday, November 8, 1998

Starlite Club, Hwy. 55 north of Kaukauna

HAMFEST INFO: Chad Pennings, N9PRC

1912 Russett Ct., Apt. 7 • Appleton WI 54914

(920) 993-0485

EXAM INFO: Larry Siebers, KD9IA • (920) 759-1167

• HTTP://W9ZL.AMPR.ORG

Lakeshore Hamfest

and Computer Swapfest

Manitowoc County Expo

Intersection of Hwys. 42-151 and I-43 on Cty. Hwy. R

Saturday, May 8, 1999

For more information, call:

Glenn, AA9MT: 920-684-7096

Red, N9GHE: 920-684-9097

ManCoRad Radio Club • P.O. Box 204 • Manitowoc, WI 54221-0204

TRI-COUNTY ARC PRESENTS

HAMFEST 1999

YOUR SPRING FAVORITE !

Sunday, March 21

Jefferson County Fairgrounds

tricityarc@globaldialog.com

TCARC 711 East Street

Fort Atkinson, WI 53538

920-563-6502

Evenings

The Central Wisconsin Radio Amateurs presents the

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SUNDAY, JUNE 6, 1999

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Information: Call, write, or email John Feltz, W9JN

973 E. 1st St., Junction City WI 54443-9614 • (715) 457-2506

E-MAIL: jfw9jn@tzn.net

Eau Amateur Radio Club

HAMFEST

Saturday, July 10, 1999

For Information Contact:

ECARC

P.O. Box 1867 Eau Claire, WI 54702-1867

http://www.ecarc.org

RACINE AMATEUR RADIO AND COMPUTER SHOW

Sunday, July 25, 1999

8 A.M. - 2 P.M.

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East Frontage Road Between Highway 20 and Highway K

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Send to RMC, P.O. Box 3, Racine, WI 53401

Email: w9udu@wi.net

Voice mail: (414) 552-6RMC

Web page: http://www2.wi.net/~hamradio/

Ozaukee Radio Club

21ST ANNUAL RADIO AND

COMPUTER SWAPFEST

Saturday, May 1, 1999

8 a.m. to 1 p.m. • Circle B Recreation Center

Intersection of Highway 60 and County I

Exams by Badger Examiners, c/o Gary Sharbuno,

5119 W. Willow Rd., Brown Deer, WI 53222

Swapfest sponsored by the Ozaukee Radio Club

W58 N985 Essex Drive, Cedarburg, WI 53012-1439

Circus City Swapfest

Sponsored by The Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club

Saturday August 14, 1999 • 7 a.m. - noon

Sauk County Fairgrounds • Baraboo, WI

Vendors • Concessions
Camping • Free Parking
Tail Gate Area

\$4 - Advanced
\$5 - At Gate
8 Foot Tables - \$5

Steve Schulze, N9UDO
(808) 356-2313/356-4777

Bill Klinkner, N9KXX
(608) 643-6908/643-6453

http://www.thelox.com/~sschulze/hamfest.htm

Red Cedar Repeater Association, Inc.

AUCTION

February 23, 1999 • 7:00 p.m.

American Legion Post 53 • 634 Water Street

Eau Claire, WI

CONTACT:

Steve Hart, KA9OMC
E616 810th Ave.

715-665-2374
Knapp, WI 54749

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N8DJB

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FAX (608) 831-1082

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